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## The NEBLINE, July 2003

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# The NEBLINE®



University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
"Helping Nebraskans enhance their lives through research-based education."

July 2003  
Vol. XVI, No. 7

Web site: [lancaster.unl.edu](http://lancaster.unl.edu)

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**SPECIAL INSERT:**  
**Lancaster County Fair**  
**Complete Schedule**  
**& Map**



## 2003 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

Discover the Fun!

### JULY 30–AUGUST 3

Discover the fun at the 2003 Lancaster County Fair, July 30–Aug. 3, with five full days of fun, food and entertainment for the entire family! FREE admission and FREE parking!

The fair opens daily at 8 a.m. and will be held at the Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock Ave., Lincoln. For more information, call 441-6545 or go to [www.lancastereventcenter.com](http://www.lancastereventcenter.com).

### The Big Show

- Don't miss the **Live Concert with Marcel and High Caliber!** Country singer Marcel is a rising star who has just released his self-titled debut album. Opening is Lincoln's own country band High Caliber who has recently released their own CD "After the Rain." Tickets are \$12.50 in advance at the Lancaster Event Center or The Fort/\$15 at the gate. *Saturday, Aug. 2, 8:30–11:30 p.m.*



Marcel

a **Town Hall Meeting**. *Thursday, July 31, 7–9 p.m.*

- In the 5th annual **Celebrity Swine Show**, local celebrities attempt to guide a pig through an obstacle course. *Friday, Aug. 1, 6 p.m.*
- **Team Penning** is open to the public. For more information or to register, contact Ron Dowding at 782-8051. *Saturday, Aug. 2, Noon–4 p.m.*
- **Team Roping** is open to the public. Top money winner of the day wins a saddle. For more information or to register, contact Kim Kohl at 526-2384. *Saturday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m.*

• The Lancaster County Fair will again host the **U.S. & Canadian International Pedal Pull Championships**. Last year's winners from all 50 states compete with competitors from Canada for the international championship! *Sunday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m./1 p.m.*

- This year's **Car Show N' Shine** is an "All Breed Show" hosted by the Capitol City Ford & Mustang Club. Ribbons and cash awards are given for "Best of Breed" and "Best of Show." Entry fee is \$15 adults/\$5 youth age 20 and under. For more information, call Norm at 754-4481 or Gary at 785-3200. *Sunday, Aug. 3; registration 10 a.m.–Noon, show Noon–4 p.m.*

- **Wacky Rodeo — Fun Entertainment** is open to all ages. Contestants participate in outrageous activities such as a diaper race, catching a greased pig and milking a goat for prizes. For more information or to register, call Kim Soucie at 434-3620. *Sunday, Aug. 3, 1–3 p.m.*

### For Kids of All Ages

- This year's **Blues Amusements Carnival** is bigger and better than ever! Two wristband days (July 30 and Aug. 3) offer unlimited rides for \$15. *Wednesday, July 30–Sunday, Aug. 3.*
- **Shriner Clowns** and the **Balloon Buffoon** strolling acts will amaze, surprise and delight fairgoers. *Wednesday, July 30–Saturday, Aug. 2.*
- Kids will enjoy the **FREE Petting Zoo and Pig Racing**. *Wednesday, July 31–Sunday, Aug. 3.*
- Hands-on activities at the **Kids Ag Awareness** provide youth a close-up look at agriculture production, byproducts, technology and careers. *Wednesday, July 30, 6–8 p.m.*
- A **Big Wheel Race** is for ages

3 to 8. Trophies are awarded. Register at the event. *Saturday, Aug. 2, Noon.*

- The **Lancaster County Pedal Tractor Pull** is for ages 4 and up. Trophies are awarded. Register at the event. *Saturday, Aug. 2, 2 p.m.*

### Fantastic Food

- Don't miss the **FREE Watermelon Feed** courtesy of the Lancaster County Fair Board and served with the help of the Lancaster County Commissioners. *Thursday, July 31, 4:30 p.m.*
- New this year is a **Spudfest** featuring a potato bar for \$4 a ticket. Purchase advance tickets from the 4-H Corner Stop (north concession stand). *Thursday, July 31, 6–7 p.m.*
- The **Family Barbecue** offers a very reasonably-priced meal at \$4 a ticket. Followed by an **Ice Cream Social** — 75¢ a cone. *Friday, Aug. 1, 5:30 p.m.*
- The **Cookie Eating Contest** is open to all ages, participation is limited — register at the 4-H Information Booth. *Friday, Aug. 1, 5:30 p.m.*

### Fair Highlights

- In the **Backseat Driver Contest**, teams of two drive through an obstacle course in a golf cart. There's one catch — the driver is blindfolded and relies on verbal directions from the passenger! *Thursday, July 31, 6:30 p.m.*
- The Lancaster delegation of State Senators will be at the Lancaster County Fair for

## Discover 4-H at the Fair!

4-H events and activities span all five days of the fair. Some of the highlights follow.

- **Static Exhibits** range from entomology displays, electronic equipment, eggplants, English muffins, embellished garments and enlarged photos to educational posters. New this year are "Discover Me ... Discover You" Intergenerational Exhibits. *On display Wednesday, July 30–Sunday, Aug. 3.*

- Lancaster County 4-H has one of the largest county fair **Horse Shows** in the state. There are 28 total events in the following shows: Dressage, English Horse, Western Horse, Roping/Working Ranch, Horse Trail, Miniature Horse, Drill Teams/Horsemanship Pairs and Horse Games. *Wednesday, July 30–Saturday, Aug. 2.*
- Expect to see a wide variety of animals in the **Household Pets Show**, such as hamsters, guinea pigs, ferrets, lizards,

hermit crabs, hedgehogs and canaries. *Wednesday, July 30, Noon.*

- 4-H'ers proudly exhibit their beef, dairy, bucket calf, goat, sheep, swine and llama projects in the **Livestock Shows**. This fair marks the start of a new, local Future Agriculturist Incentive and Rewards (F.A.I.R.) program funded in part by **Alumni Showmanship Contests**. *Thursday, July 31–Saturday, Aug. 2.*



- **Style Revue** is a chance for 4-H'ers to model their clothing projects to highlight selection, fit, creativity and accessories. *Wednesday, July 30, 7 p.m.*
- The **Tablesetting Contest** is colorful sight to see with an entire room full of 4-H'ers setting up theme tables — along with planned menus — in either a formal, casual, picnic or birthday style. *Thursday, July 31, 5 p.m.*

Non-Profit Organization  
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED


Lancaster County 4-H Council  
University of Nebraska  
Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
444 Cherry Creek Road • Suite A  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507



Fragrance in the Garden

As a gardener, you know there are hundreds of garden plants to choose from when you are designing a landscape. Fragrant plants are an added bonus to your garden site. Consider adding these fragrant plants to your outdoor living area. (MJF)

| Common Name        | Scientific Name        | Fragrance Source  | Height (inches) | Annual or Perennial | Location   |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------|
| Basil, Sweet       | Ocimum basilicum       | Foliage           | 12 – 18         | Annual              | Full sun   |
| Chamomile, German  | Matricaria recutita    | Flowers           | 12 – 18         | Annual              | Full sun   |
| Iris, Bearded      | Iris germanica         | Flowers           | 8 – 36          | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Lemon Balm         | Melissa officinalis    | Foliage           | 24 – 36         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Lavender, English  | Lavandula angustifolia | Flowers & Foliage | 12 – 16         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Lily-of-the-Valley | Convallaria majalis    | Flowers           | 8 – 12          | Perennial           | Part shade |
| Spearmint          | Mentha spicata         | Foliage           | 12 – 24         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Oregano            | Origanum vulgare       | Foliage           | 12 – 18         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Peony              | Paeonia lactiflora     | Flower            | 24 – 48         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Rose               | Rosa sp.               | Flower            | 18 – 48         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Rosemary           | Rosmarinus officinalis | Foliage           | 24 – 36         | Tender Perennial    | Full sun   |
| Sage, common       | Salvia officinalis     | Foliage           | 18 – 36         | Perennial           | Full sun   |
| Thyme, common      | Thymus vulgaris        | Foliage           | 8 – 12          | Perennial           | Full sun   |



# Garden Guide

Things to do this month

Snapdragons should be pinched back after blooming to promote a second flush of growth.

Cut back and fertilize delphinium and phlox to encourage a second flowering.

Many plants are easily propagated by layering. Verbenas, euonymus, English ivy and climbing roses are a few plants that will root if the stems are fastened down and covered with soil.

Cutting flowers is best done with sharp shears or a knife which will help avoid injury to the growing plant. A slanting cut will expose a larger absorbing surface to water and will prevent the base of the stem from resting on the bottom of the vase. It is best to carry a bucket of water to the garden for collecting flowers, rather than a cutting basket.

Divide and transplant bearded iris using the vigorous ends of the rhizomes. Discard the old center portion. Cut the leaves back to about six inches.

Tall flowers should be staked to prevent damage by wind. Use stakes which are large enough to support the plant but are not too conspicuous. Use soft twine or twist ties to secure.

A brown or grayish cast over a lawn can be caused by a dull or improperly adjusted mower blades that shred grass rather than cut it.

Store pesticides in a safe place in their original containers, away from children and pets. Use pesticides carefully in your garden. Read the labels and follow the directions. The warnings and precautions are for your protection.

Certain pesticides have a waiting period of several days between the time of the last spray and harvest. Read and follow directions on all labels before applying to your vegetable crops. Wash all produce thoroughly before use.

Control mosquitoes by eliminating all sources of stagnant water.

A garden needs one inch of rain or water each week. Early morning is the best time to water. Evening watering is less desirable because plant leaves that remain wet through the night are more susceptible to fungus diseases. Mulch plants to reduce water losses and improve yields.

For fall harvest of lettuce, radish, carrots, beets, turnips, kale and spinach, sow seeds in late July to early August.

Continue to make successive plantings of crops like beans and sweet corn to provide a continuous harvest until fall. A small garden will produce a large quantity of vegetables if replanting is done throughout the summer.

Check the soil moisture of container grown vegetables and flowers daily. As the temperature rises, some plants may need water twice a day.

Continue attracting insect eating birds to the garden area by providing them with a fresh water source. (MJF)

Vegetable Gardening In The Fall

By planning and planting a fall vegetable garden, it is possible to have fresh vegetables up to and even past the first frosts. Many varieties of vegetables can be planted in mid to late summer for fall harvests. Succession plantings of warm-season crops, such as corn and beans, can be harvested until the first killing frost. Cool-season crops, such as broccoli, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, kohlrabi, leaf lettuce, radishes, spinach, turnips, kale and collards grow well during the cool fall days and withstand light frosts. Timely planting is the key to a successful fall garden.

To determine the time to plant a particular vegetable for the latest harvest, you need to

know the average date of the first hard freeze. For Lancaster County, it is approximately Oct. 10. You also must know the number of days to maturity for the variety of vegetable you plan to grow. Count the days back from the frost date to figure your planting date.

When planting fall crops, prepare the soil by restoring nutrients removed by spring and summer crops. A light layer of compost or a small application of fertilizer will prepare the soil for another crop. Dry soil may make working the soil difficult and inhibit seed germination during the mid-summer period. Plant fall vegetables when the soil is moist after a rain or water the area thoroughly the day

before planting. It may also be beneficial to soak the seeds overnight before planting.

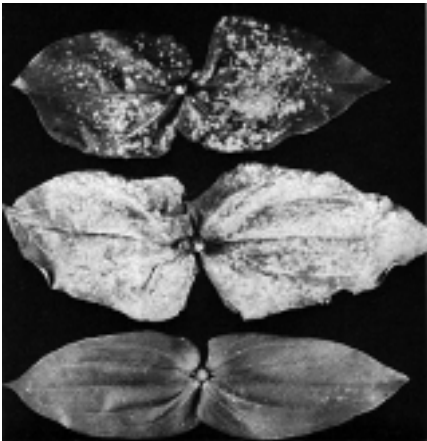
An organic mulch will help keep the soil cool. Mulching between rows can decrease soil drying. Irrigate when necessary so plants have sufficient moisture during the warm days. Some of the best quality vegetables are produced during the warm days and cool nights of the fall season.

Look ahead to the fall garden, which offers its own satisfaction through its prolonged harvest of fresh vegetables, savings in food costs and the knowledge that you are making full use of your gardening space and season. (MJF)

Powdery Mildew on Ornamentals

Powdery mildew is a fungal disease of many ornamentals in Nebraska landscapes. The most commonly effected species include lilac, sycamore, oak, honeysuckle, bittersweet, hydrangea, viburnum, dogwood and rose. Many annuals and perennial flowers are also affected.


The most obvious symptoms are white to gray powdery substance covering the leaves and/or stems of the plants. An over all stunted appearance to the plant can also occur. Later in the season the powdery substance may become thicker,



Two zinnia leaves affected by powdery mildew, top and center; healthy leaf below. The center leaf is severely infected; individual infections can be distinguished on the top leaf. See page 12 for photo of powdery mildew on an oak leaf.

indicating the growth of mycelium. Along with this thicker growth, tiny, black, round fruiting bodies will appear. These bodies will rupture and expel spores that will then disperse in the wind to other host plants.

Control of this disease can be achieved by good cultural methods and use of fungicides. The cultural practices include thinning overgrown plants and increasing air circulation around the infected plant material. Fungicides should be applied at the first sign of mildew and reapplied two weeks later. (MJF)



## Horticulture Information Center

NUFACTS 24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
1-800-832-5441; or 441-7188 in the Lincoln area

To listen to a NUFACTS information center message, call the number above on a touch-tone phone, then enter a three-digit number listed below. Call 441-7180 to receive a brochure with all the NUFACTS message topics.

|                          |                            |                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| NUFACTS                  | 183 Poison Ivy Control     | 277 Squash Vine Borer        |
| 133 Tree Twig Girdler    | 198 Mushrooms in Lawn      | 282 Cucumber Bacterial Wilt  |
| 140 Mite Injury          | 200 Broadleaf Weed Control | 292 Rabbit Control in Garden |
| 156 Black Spot on Roses  | 203 Nutsedge in Lawns      |                              |
| 180 Summer Patch of Turf | 268 Blossom End Rot        |                              |



# Landfill Rates Haven't Changed Since 1996

Barb Ogg  
Extension Educator

On March 17, 2003, Lincoln's City Council unanimously passed an amendment to the Lincoln Municipal Code which establishes an occupation tax of \$7 per ton on refuse and special waste collected within the city. It also applies to refuse collected outside the corporate limits and deposited in the Lincoln sanitary landfill. This occupation tax will only be collected from commercial refuse haulers.

The purpose of the occupation tax is to provide sufficient revenue to fund programs associated with solid waste management, such as recycling and composting programs, old landfill closure and the disposal of demolition debris. These waste management programs previously were funded by a portion of the landfill tipping fees. The occupation tax fairly assesses the cost of these programs to refuse haulers who may be taking waste generated in Lincoln to landfill sites outside of Lancaster County.

At the same time, the City Council reduced tipping fees at the North Bluff Road Landfill from \$17 to \$10 per ton. This \$10 per ton is what it actually costs to operate the landfill. For commercial waste haulers who bring their waste to the North Bluff Road Landfill, the total cost (\$10 tipping fee + \$7 occupation tax) is \$17. This total hasn't increased since 1996. Other fees for waste disposal have not increased.

## Where Wastes Should Go

The City of Lincoln's Recycling Web site has information on recycling just about everything from aerosol cans to x-ray film. Check out



[www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/pworks/waste/recycle/index.htm](http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/pworks/waste/recycle/index.htm)

**Illegal Dumping**  
Let's keep our urban and rural areas looking nice. Report

any person dumping waste at recycling sites, city parks, county roads or on private property to the Sheriff at 441-6500 or Lincoln Police Department at 441-7204.

| Landfill 2003 Fees                               |   |
|--|---|
| <b>BLUFF ROAD</b>                                |   |
| Solid Waste (waste haulers) (dollars per ton)    | \$10.00 (tipping fee) + \$7.00 (occupation tax) |
| Solid Waste (non-waste hauler) (dollars per ton) | \$10.00   |
| Yard Waste (dollars per ton)                     | \$15.75   |
| <b>48TH STREET TRANSFER STATION</b>              |   |
| <b>Disposal fees</b>                             |   |
| Pickup trucks and vans (each)                    | \$10.00   |
| Small trailers (each)                            | \$10.00   |
| Cars (each)                                      | \$2.50  |
| Pickups with trailers (each)                     | \$16.00   |
| Cars with trailers (each)                        | \$12.50   |
| <b>Construction and Demolition Debris</b>        |   |
| Small vehicles (each)                            | \$4.00  |
| Large vehicles (dollars per ton)                 | \$4.00  |
| <b>Additional Fees</b>                           |   |
| Uncovered loads at North 48th Street (each)      | \$3.00  |
| Passenger tires (each)                           | \$3.00  |
| Truck tires (each)                               | \$6.50  |
| Heavy equipment tires (each)                     | \$11.50   |
| Appliances (each)                                | \$5.50  |

# About Opossums

- The opossum is North America's only marsupial mammal. The female has a pouch where she carries the babies until they are about 2-3 months old. After the young leave the pouch, the female carries them on her back for another 1-2 months.
- Opossum is derived from the Algonquin Indian word *apasum* meaning "white beast or animal."
- Opossums prefer to be alone and are mostly nocturnal (active at night) — although they can be seen shuffling about in the day time.
- Opossums are omnivores. They eat insects (including cockroaches!), snails, small rodents and snakes, dead animals, over-ripe fruit, leaves and vegetables. They also eat dog food, cat food and your food!
- Opossums live anywhere they

- can find food, water and a place for shelter. When climbing in trees, opossums use their tail to keep them stable—they do not just hang by their tails. Opossums feet are shaped somewhat like human hands with an opposable thumb on their hind feet.
- Common in rural areas, opossums are also found in urban and suburban neighborhoods. They move through backyards at night causing some grief to sleeping residents as neighborhood dogs bark to announce their presence.
- Opossums don't usually cause problems for homeowners or farmers. They are a nuisance when they raid garbage cans and get into pet food that has been left outdoors. You can easily solve these problems by using tight-fitting lids on trash containers,

- bring pet food inside at night and exclude them from your buildings.
- Opossums are more resistant to rabies than any other mammal. Humans are even more susceptible to rabies than opossums. Opossums do carry fleas, often the same fleas that infest cats and dogs. If you are foolish enough to grab an opossum, it will bite (opossums are, of course, wild animals).
- When an opossum is threatened, it shows its 50 teeth (the highest number of teeth in any mammal), growls, hisses, screeches — and if these things don't scare you off, the opossum may play dead.
- "Playing 'Possum" — opossums can appear dead when faced with danger. No amount of prodding, poking or shaking revives the animal.

## WEST NILE VIRUS NEWS

# Adult Mosquito Control

Recent West Nile Virus cases in Nebraska have resulted in questions from acreage owners and farmers about treating acreages or farmsteads for adult mosquitoes. In general, this type of treatment alone will take much effort with limited results unless treatments are repeated every day or two. Treating standing water or ponds with a larvicide, like *Bacillus thuringiensis* will be more helpful.

The most sensible and inexpensive way to prevent mosquito bites is to use an insect repellent, containing DEET (diethyl-toluamide). Products containing DEET are available in many concentrations that range from liquids to aerosols. It is even possible to purchase moist towelettes containing DEET that can be put in backpack, purse or glove box, just for emergencies. Be sure to read and follow label directions when using personal repellents.

It is legal for a acreage owner or farmer to apply general-use pesticides for adult mosquitoes on their private property. However, persons must be certified and licensed by the Department of Agriculture under certain conditions.

- They need to be certified and licensed if:
- They are hired to apply insecticide for adult mosquitoes in private or public areas or,
- They apply Restricted Use Pesticides or,
- They apply insecticides for adult mosquitoes as a condition of their employment.

For more information about pesticide certification and licensing, contact the Nebraska Department of Agriculture Pesticide Program at 471-2394.

The following information about controlling adult

mosquitoes comes from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Because most adult mosquito control is done by municipalities, it is written for that audience, but the information also applies to successful adult mosquito control on acreages and farmsteads.

"For adult control to be successful, insecticides must be applied under proper environmental conditions (e.g., temperature and wind) and at the time of day when the target species is most active. The applicator must apply pesticides with carefully calibrated equipment that generates the proper-sized insecticide droplets that will impinge on adult mosquitoes while they are at rest or flying. If the droplets are too large, they will fall to the ground. If they are too small, the prevailing winds will carry them away from the target area. Once the insecticide spray mist dissipates, insecticides will break down in the environment (generally within 24 hours) producing little residual effect. Depending on the situation, insecticides can be applied from spray equipment mounted on trucks, airplanes or helicopters. All insecticides used in the U.S. for public health use have been approved and registered by the EPA following the review of many scientific studies. The EPA has assessed these chemicals and found that, when used according to label directions, they do not pose unreasonable risk to public health and the environment."

Because of the frequent applications that are required to control adult mosquitoes, it is more sensible to treat standing waters for mosquito larvae and use DEET repellents when outdoors during times mosquitoes are active. (BPO)

"Death" may last up to 4 hours. During this time, the opossum lays on its side, it is stiff, the eyes appear glazed, it drools, the opossum's tongue may hang out the side of its mouth and the opossum releases a greenish anal fluid. Attackers, thinking the animal

is dead, may just leave it alone. Wildlife biologists still aren't sure if this is deliberate or involuntary (caused by nervous paralysis). (SC)

See page 12 for photos of an opossum playing dead.

## Visit 4-H Web Cam

Visit the 4-H Web cam online at [www.lancaster.unl.edu](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu). The site features fun activities, photos, and educational resources for parents and teachers. Check out the new "What Will I Look Like When I Grow Up?" feature which shows what baby chickens, turkey, peacocks, quail, guinea fowl, ducks and pheasants look like when they grow up!





## Selling CRP Land? What You Should Know



USDA Photo by: Anson Eaglin

CRP land that has not been cut.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been an integral part of the USDA farm program since the 1985 farm bill. Under CRP provisions, highly erodible land or riparian land along streams and rivers is planted to permanent cover (forages and/or trees) and is not harvested while the contract is in force. In exchange, the landowner receives annual payments for the life of the contract. (Exemptions to the ban on haying and grazing forages have been granted in some disaster situations, usually with a reduction in government payments.)

Recognize that the government has made a large investment in every tract of land that is enrolled in CRP. Each site has required expert technical assistance to determine eligibility under the rules, seeding recommendations, follow-up assistance and monitoring. The largest up-front expense was the cost-share funding to establish the permanent cover. Considering the investment, it is understandable that the government would want the contract to stay in force for the full term. The law stipulates severe penalties for cases when the owner does not comply with the rules or intentionally breaks the contract.

If a participant fails to carry out the terms and conditions of a CRP contract, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) may terminate the CRP contract and the participant would forfeit further payments under the contract, refund all payments previously received, plus interest; and pay liquidated damages as specified in the contract. If the Deputy Administrator determines such failure does not warrant termination of such contract, relief from the provisions may be authorized. Also, CCC may reduce a demand for a refund under this section to the extent CCC determines that such relief would be appropriate and will not deter accomplishment of program goals. (For the exact wording of the law, see the Federal Register online at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/CRP%20Final%20050803.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/CRP%20Final%20050803.pdf), "24830 Federal Register / Vol. 68, No. 89 /

Thursday, May 8, 2003 / Rules and Regulations"

These issues can become particularly sticky when land currently enrolled in CRP is sold. If the new owner does not become the successor of the contract, who is responsible for the penalties outlined above?

If a participant transfers all or part of the right and interest in land subject to a CRP contract and the new owner or operator does not become a successor to the contract within 60 days, or such other time as the Deputy Administrator determines to be appropriate, the contract shall be terminated and the **original participant**:

(1) Forfeits all rights to any future payments for that acreage;

(2) Shall refund all previous payments received under the contract by the participant or prior participants, plus interest, except as otherwise specified by the Deputy Administrator.

Clearly, if the new owner fails to become a successor to the contract within the 60-day limit, the **previous participant** is responsible and may be required to refund **all** previous payments, plus any interest received.

What implications does this have for selling CRP land?

According to Dr. David Aiken, NU extension water and ag law specialist, "If the new buyer does not intend to continue in the CRP contract, the original participant (the seller or their representative) should consider the penalties when setting the price of the land. One way to protect the seller would be to make the sale of the land conditional on the buyer's acceptance by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) for CRP participation. If the buyer isn't accepted by FSA, then the sale does not go through." Greg Chewakin, Lancaster County FSA executive director, agrees that making the sale contingent on acceptance of the new owner into the program is sound advice. He added, "Once the new owner is named the successor of the CRP contract, it is the new owner, not the former owner, who will be liable for future issues of noncompliance of the contract rules." (TD)

## Plant Alfalfa in August

Alfalfa can be seeded either in spring or fall in eastern Nebraska. Whether it is best to plant alfalfa in the spring or fall depends on two factors, predominant weed species and soil moisture. If the predominant weed species are summer annuals such as foxtail and pigweed, it may be best to plant alfalfa in the fall — provided the soil profile has adequate moisture for growth. This allows the alfalfa to get established with less weed competition and since it greens up in early spring, it will get a head start on the annual weeds next year that must come from seed when the soil temperature is right for germination.

If the predominant weed species are winter annuals such as pennycress or downy brome, spring planting may be best. The weeds can be killed with tillage or herbicides in early spring and then the alfalfa planted into a clean seed bed. Pennycress, downy brome, and other winter annual weeds are more dominant in former wheat ground since they have the same growth habit as winter wheat.

The best time for fall seeding alfalfa in eastern

Nebraska is during the month of August, *provided adequate soil moisture is available*. Farmers sometimes wait until middle or late September to plant alfalfa. This is too late because the plants do not have a chance to become established before the first killing frost. The latest alfalfa should be seeded in the fall is Sept. 10 in Lancaster County. If planting cannot be completed by that time, it is best to wait for another season.

Alfalfa seed needs to be planted 1/4- to 1/2-inch deep in fine textured soils and 3/4-inch deep in sandy soils for best germination. Regardless of seeding time, it is critical that alfalfa be planted into a firm seed bed. Alfalfa seeds must have close contact with soil particles and soil moisture to insure rapid emergence. A firm seedbed helps prevent seed from being planted too deep. Leave just enough loose soil to cover seed after planting.

If you have attended an extension alfalfa workshop, you have probably seen Dr. Bruce Anderson, extension forage specialist, demonstrate his alfalfa seed bed testing kit. It is a basketball. If you can't bounce a basketball on the seed bed prior

to planting alfalfa, the seed bed is too loose. Don't have a testing kit? Walk across the seed bed with hard soled shoes, if your heel sinks in more than 1/2-inch, it is too loose. A good rain after tillage will firm the seedbed. Harrowing with the spikes set flat or rolling with a packer will firm seedbeds provided there is some moisture in the soil.

Complete tillage (disking) following row crops is okay if the soil is firmed up by either rain, sprinkler irrigation or packer-seeders. If the untilled soil surface is already smooth, no-till planters have also been very successful. In fact, no-till seeding of alfalfa following small grain crops has become the trend among successful alfalfa producers.

Before seeding alfalfa, whether you plant in spring or fall, do a complete soil test. Apply and incorporate lime and phosphorus fertilizer, if needed, and be sure to inoculate the seed. One good extension publication is NebGuide (G93-652) "Seeding and Renovating Alfalfa." It can be picked up at the extension office or accessed online at [www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/Range/g652.htm](http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/Range/g652.htm). (TD)

## Nitrate Sampling Strategies

High nitrates are a constant concern when drought-stressed annual crops are used as

forage for cattle, sheep and other grazing animals. How can you sample and test corn and other plants for nitrates to help guide your management and use decisions? One way is to select different parts of the plant to sample.

For example, gather all the leaves and maybe the softer top part of the stalk from several plants. If the nitrate test shows that this material is below the danger level, animals can graze this field quite safely as long as they have plenty of leaves to selectively graze without being forced to eat lower stalks.

Or maybe some fields have areas with extra short plants that might be more attractive to grazing animals than taller plants nearby. A sample of these short plants might indicate they contain extra high levels of nitrates. Then you might fence out this area when grazing.

What about the lower stalk all by itself? Since the bottom three inches usually can't be harvested or grazed, it's not too important. But, separating the three to 12-inch portion of the stalk from the rest of the plant will let you compare their nitrate concentrations. This can aid your decision about how high to cut in order to leave a higher proportion of the nitrates



in the field.

Finally, hand chopping and subsampling the large volume of material gathered

when a dozen or more plants are

collected for a sample is difficult. It is probably better to send the whole plants to the lab and let them do the work or use a wood chipper to get uniform chopping and more reliable subsampling.

Source Bruce Anderson, NU Extension Forage Specialist. (TD)

## Don't Forget About Prussic Acid

When annual crops such as corn, forage sorghum and sorghum-sudan hybrids are harvested as feed for livestock, most people recognize the potential for high nitrates and potential nitrate poisoning. With all the talk about nitrates in annual forage crops, it's easy to forget about other potential toxins. Prussic acid, also called hydrocyanic acid and cyanide, often is overlooked when nitrate poisoning becomes a danger. Prussic acid is different from nitrates, but just as dangerous in plants under stress. The danger of prussic acid poisoning is limited to just a few plants, most of them related to the sorghum family. Sudangrass produces the least amount of prussic acid and can be managed quite easily to prevent problems. Sorghum-sudan crosses are a bit more hazardous and forage sorghums, cane, grain sorghum and shattercane can be very dangerous. Other summer grasses like millets and corn, as well as small grains, do not produce toxic levels of prussic acid.

The good news about prussic acid is it rarely is a problem in hay or silage. That's because as the plants dry or ferment, much of the prussic acid disappears as a gas. But when you graze these plants, be extra cautious.

New shoots and tillers, and very young leaves, contain the highest poisoning potential. This is bad news since your cattle are likely to prefer these plant parts when grazing. So limit their ability to select just these dangerous plant parts by waiting to graze until plants are tall enough to have enough older leaves to prevent animals from just picking their favorite parts. Wait until plants height is 18-inches for sudangrass and 24-inches for sorghum-sudan hybrids. During drought, don't even think about grazing cane or milo.

Be sure to fill animals with hay or grain before first turning into graze. And with a little care, your animals will be safe.

Source Bruce Anderson, NU Extension Forage Specialist. (TD)



Farmers Market Pricing Strategies

The following are some pricing strategies for Smart Marketers.

- **Price-lining:** Price-lining features products at a limited number of prices, reflecting varying product quality or product lines. This strategy can help smart marketers to sell top quality produce at a premium price and an “economy line,” e.g. overripe or smaller fruits. Price-lining can also make shopping easier for consumers and sellers because there are fewer prices to consider and handle.
- **Single-pricing:** The single-price strategy charges customers the same price for all items. Items are packaged in different volumes based on the single price they would be sold

for. With such a policy, the variety of offerings is often limited. The strength is being able to avoid employee error and facilitate the speed of transactions. Also, customers know what to expect. There are no surprises for customers.

- **Loss-leader pricing:** A less-than-normal markup or margin on an item is taken to increase customer traffic. The loss-leaders should be well-known, frequently purchased items. The idea is that customers will come to buy the “leaders” and will also purchase regularly priced items. If customers only buy the “loss leaders,” the marketer is in trouble.
- **Odd-ending pricing:** Odd-ending prices are set just below the dollar figures, such

as \$1.99 a pound instead of \$2.00. Some believe that consumers perceive odd-ending prices to be substantially lower than prices with even-ending. However, it might not be suitable in some markets. For example, in a farmers market situation, products should be priced in round figures to speed up sales and eliminate problem with change.

- **Quantity discount pricing:** A quantity discount is given to encourage customers to buy in larger amounts, such as \$2.00 each and three for \$5.00. Gross margins should be computed on the quantity prices.
- **Volume pricing:** Volume pricing uses the consumers’ perception to its advantage,

and no real discount is given to customers. Rather than selling a single item for \$2.50, two are priced for \$4.99 or \$5.00.

- **Cumulative pricing:** Price discount is given based on the total volume purchased over a period of time. The discount usually increases as the quantity purchased increases. This type of pricing has a promotional impact because it rewards a customer for being a loyal buyer.
- **Trade discount/promotional allowances:** Price is reduced in exchange for marketing services performed by buyers or to compensate buyers for performing promotional services.
- **Cash discount:** A discount is given to buyers who pay the

bills within a specified period of time to encourage prompt payment.

- **Seasonal discount:** This type of discount is used to induce buyers to purchase at the end of the season or during off-season.

While the above strategies are widely used and proven effective, smart marketers should not be limited to these strategies. Creative pricing ideas can help you differentiate your products and services. No matter how you price your products, always go back to check it against your bottom-line. Make sure prices for your products reflect your business image and target market and make a profit. Smart pricing can be a good marketing strategy. (DJ)

Fertilizing Trees

Trees and shrubs are the foundation of a good landscape and an important part of your home. They lend not only beauty and shade, but increase the value of your property as well. It pays to care for them properly.

In urban or suburban neighborhoods, trees and shrubs often need fertilizing. Modern home-building methods create adverse growing conditions for plants. Often, good topsoil is completely removed and not replaced. Heavy machinery scrapes and compacts fertile soil, reducing its aeration and drainage. Plants are crowded by streets and sidewalks, and must compete with grass for nutrients. Proper fertilization is especially important to landscape plants in this type of environment.

You should also watch for some of the following symptoms of nutrient deficiency: pale green or yellow leaves, reduced leaf size and retention, premature fall coloration and leaf drop, reduced twig and branch elongation, yellowing along the leaf veins and overall reduced plant growth and vigor.

To avoid potential nutrient deficiencies, you can establish a fertilization schedule for young and newly transplanted trees and shrubs. Fertilize annually for two years with slow-release fertilizer to promote their establishment in the landscape. Fertilize every two years until the plant matures if it is not in already fertilized turf. Fertilize mature trees and shrubs if growth seems inadequate.

Complete fertilizers contain the three nutrients plants need in the largest amount for optimum growth - nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K). A fertilizer labeled “10-10-10” contains 10% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 10% potassium. Consequently, a 50 pound bag of 10-10-10 contains only five pounds of actual nitrogen. Whether you use organic or synthetic fertilizers, try to find one with a high percentage of water-insoluble nitrogen (WIN); this is a slow-release form of nitrogen — becoming available as the plant can use it — that will not wash or leach through the soil into groundwater.

Specialists recommend applying fertilizer over the entire root zone of a plant. Consequently, the amount you apply will depend on how many square feet are covered by the plant’s roots.

To determine a plant’s root zone, you must first know the radius of the plant’s roots. Root radius is at least twice the radius of the plant’s crown. For example, if the branches of a tree appear to spread about 15 feet from the trunk, then the roots spread at least 30 feet. To Find the

total square feet covered by the roots, use the formula 3.14 x (root radius) x (root radius). In the example given above, this would be:

3.14 x 30 x 30 = 2,826 square feet

Once you know the total area in square feet covered by the roots, you can estimate the amount of fertilizer you need. When you fertilize evergreens, use one to three pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. For plants that lose their leaves, use no more than 2 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in one application otherwise, plants may be burned.

Fertilizer Math

Calculating the amount of a given fertilizer formulation to apply per 1,000 square feet is based on both the amount needed and the percentage of nitrogen in the bag. Use the following method:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| number of pounds of nitrogen needed x 100%   |  |
| Percentage of nitrogen in the bag  |  |
| = pounds of fertilizer to apply per 1,000 square feet                                  |  |
| Example: Assume the fertilizer to be used is a 30-10-10 formulation with 30% nitrogen. |  |
| 3 pounds of nitrogen needed x 100%   |  |
| 30% nitrogen in the bag  |  |
| = pounds of fertilizer to apply per 1,000 square feet.                                 |  |
| 300  |  |
| 30   |  |
| = 10 pounds of 30-10-10 per 1,000 square feet.   |  |

The easiest and most effective method of supplying nutrients to the entire root system of the plant is broadcasting — spreading granular fertilizer evenly over the entire root zone. Be sure to keep fertilizer away from driveways and other paved surfaces, as it can wash into storm drains and lower the water quality of our creeks and rivers. (DJ)

In Dry Weather, Watering More Critical For Some Plants



Drought-damaged lawn in Lincoln.

Watering is more critical for some plants than others. If your ability to water the plants in your landscape is limited, setting watering priorities guarantees that the plants that have the most critical need get water first.

Top priority are newly planted lawns, trees and shrubs. These plants haven’t established extensive root systems, so they can’t survive long periods of dry weather. They’d also be expensive to replace, so if rain is scarce, you must irrigate.

Priority No. 2 is trees and shrubs planted within the past two or three years. Though they’re not as vulnerable to drought as newly planted ornamentals, they still don’t have the established root systems of older plants. In severe drought, plants up to five or six years old may need watering to survive.

The next priority is flowers, vegetable gardens and older landscape plants.

Though flowers and vegetables may show the effects of dry weather sooner and more dramatically than some other plants, the relatively low cost of establishing them relegates them to a lower spot on the priority list. Mulching to slow the loss of soil moisture can reduce the need to water and control weeds. Weeds can rob desirable plants of available moisture and nutrients.

Older, established woody ornamentals can vary in their need for irrigation. Birch and dogwood are among those more susceptible to drought; oaks, hickory, honeylocust, Norway maple and white and green ash tend to be more drought-resistant. Plants under attack by

defoliating pests will need supplemental water more than unstressed plants.

Healthy, established lawns have a built-in protection against drought — plants go dormant. The lawn may turn brown, but it’ll green up and grow again when conditions improve. Keeping a lawn growing and green during hot, dry weather requires watering every two to three days.

Newly transplanted flowers and vegetables and newly seeded lawns require frequent, shallow watering. Other plants do better with deep watering, which encourages the formation of large, deep root systems that help plants withstand dry weather. To water trees and shrubs, place a trickling hose placed near the base of the plant or, for large trees, let the hose trickle at several locations within the dripline. In this case, watering may take three or four hours. A trickle irrigation system or a soaker hose placed upside-down in vegetable or flower beds is more efficient than a sprinkler. It applies water to the soil rather than throwing it up into the air to evaporate or applying it to plant foliage, where it can promote disease development.

The rule of thumb for watering is an inch of water per week from rain, rain and irrigation or irrigation alone. Soil type enters into the calculation. Plants on sandy soils need more; plants exposed to hot, drying winds will also need more. Plants on heavy-clay soils may need their inch applied in more than one watering session so the water has a chance to soak in rather than run off. (DJ)





Alice Henneman, RD, LMNT, Extension Educator

To add flavor to tender cuts of meat, poultry and fish without adding salt or fat, try a rub. Here are two suggestions from registered dietitian Roberta Duyff in her new book, *American Dietetic Association Complete Food and Nutrition Guide* (2nd Edition).

## Meat, Poultry and Fish Rubs

**Pepper-Garlic Rub.** Combine garlic powder, cracked black pepper and cayenne pepper.

**Italian Rub.** Combine fresh or dried oregano, basil and rosemary with minced Italian parsley and garlic.

### Directions

To apply a rub, Duyff advises you, "gently press the mixture onto the surface of the meat prior to cooking."

### Cook's Tips:

- If you don't have all the spices for making the Italian rub, you might try Italian seasoning.
- No set proportions are needed for a rub. Just sprinkle each separate seasoning on the food according to personal preference.

## Bowl Them Over with Pears!

Pears are one of those fruits that continue to ripen after you pick them. (Other fruits include apricots, bananas, cantaloupe, kiwi, nectarines, peaches, plantains and plums.) One of the easiest ways to ripen pears is to set them in a pretty bowl on a cupboard or table and enjoy viewing them as they ripen. To determine if a pear is ripe, gently press it at the stem end. Most types yield to pressure when ripe.

To speed the ripening of pears, put them in a ripening bowl or in a loosely closed brown paper bag at room temperature. Plastic bags don't work for ripening.

Refrigerate when ripe in an open or a perforated plastic bag in your refrigerator crisper drawer. If you don't have access to commercial perforated bags, use a sharp object to make several small holes in a regular plastic bag.

Store fruits in a separate refrigerator crisper drawer from



U.S. Department of Agriculture

vegetables. Fruits give off ethylene gas which can shorten the storage life of vegetables. Some vegetables give off odors that can be absorbed by fruits and affect their quality.

After you cut into pears, keep them (and other fruits such as apples, pears, bananas and peaches) from turning brown by coating them with an acidic juice such as lemon, orange or pineapple juice. Or use a commercial anti-darkening preparation with fruits, such as Ever-Fresh™ or Fruit-Fresh®, and follow the manufacturer's directions. Cut fruits as close to serving time as possible.

Refrigerate peeled/cut pears and other peeled/cut fruits and vegetables so the TOTAL time they're at room temperature is less than two hours.

Learn more about the flavor and uses of the various types of pears from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov/nccdp/hp/dnpa/5ADay/month/pear.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdp/hp/dnpa/5ADay/month/pear.htm).

## Handling Food Safely on the Road

V-A-C-A-T-I-O-N! Oh, how we long for that eight letter word every summer, when millions of us eagerly get away from school and work. We take to the road in cars or recreational vehicles; live on boats; relax in beach or mountain vacation homes; and camp.

No matter where we go or what we do, there is a common denominator that runs through all of our summer travels and relaxation — it's called F-O-O-D!

The "road" to food safety, however, can either be a bumpy one or smooth — depending on what precautions are taken handling meals as we travel this summer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's nationwide, toll-free Meat and Poultry Hotline reminds everyone that some simple, common-sense food safety rules can save a vacation from disaster. Following this advice could make the difference between a vacation to remember and one remembered because people got sick from improperly handled food.

First, some general rules, while traveling this summer:

### Plan Ahead

If you are traveling with perishable food, place it in a cooler with ice or freezer packs. When carrying drinks, consider packing them in a separate cooler so the food cooler is not opened frequently. Have plenty of ice or frozen gel-packs on hand before starting to pack food. If you take perishable foods along (for example, meat, poultry, eggs and salads) for eating on the road or to cook at your vacation spot, plan to keep everything on ice in your cooler. Are there refrigerators at the beach house or other vacation home?

### Pack Safely

Pack perishable foods directly from the refrigerator or



freezer into the cooler. Meat and poultry may be packed while it is still frozen; it stays colder longer. Also, a full cooler will maintain its cold temperatures longer than one partially filled. Be sure to keep raw meat and poultry wrapped separately from cooked foods or foods meant to be eaten raw such as fruits.

If the cooler is only partially filled, pack the remaining space with more ice or with fruit and some non-perishable foods such as peanut butter and jelly and perhaps some hard-like Cheddar cheeses. For long trips to the shore or the mountains, take along two coolers — one for the day's immediate food needs, such as lunch, drinks or snacks and the other for perishable foods to be used later in the vacation.

Keep the cooler in the air-conditioned passenger compartment of your car, rather than in a hot trunk. Limit the times the cooler is opened. Open and close the lid quickly.

Now, follow these food safety tips:

### When Camping

Remember to keep the cooler in a shady spot. Keep it covered with a blanket, tarp or poncho, preferably one light in color to reflect heat.

Bring along bottled water or other canned or bottled drinks. Always assume streams and rivers are not safe for drinking. If camping in a remote area,

bring along water purification tablets or equipment. These are available at camping supply stores.

Keep hands and all utensils clean when preparing food. Use disposable towelettes to clean hands. When planning meals, think about buying and using shelf-stable food to ensure food safety.

### When at the Beach

Plan ahead. Take along only the amount of food to be eaten to avoid having leftovers. If grilling, make sure local ordinances allow it.

Bring the cooler! Partially bury it in the sand, cover with blankets and shade with a beach umbrella.

Bring along moist towelettes for cleaning hands.

If dining along the boardwalk, make sure the food stands frequented look clean and hot foods are served hot and cold foods cold. Don't eat anything that has been sitting out in the hot sun — a real invitation for foodborne illness and a spoiled vacation.

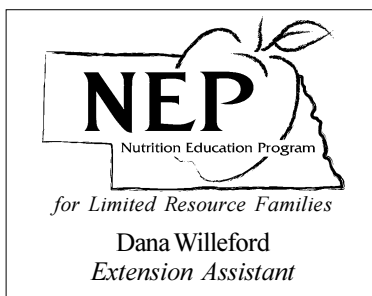
### When in the Vacation Home or the Recreational Vehicle

If a vacation home or a recreational vehicle has not been used for a while, check leftover canned food from last year. The Meat and Poultry Hotline recommends canned foods which may have been exposed to freezing and thawing temperatures over the winter be discarded.

Also, check the refrigerator. If unplugged from last year, thoroughly clean it before using. Make sure all food preparation areas in the vacation home or in the recreational vehicle are thoroughly cleaned.

Source: United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service, July 2002 (AH)

## Moms Learn About Good Nutrition at Good Neighbor Center



"My child won't eat anything I cook!" "She doesn't like vegetables except corn!" "He only drinks milk!" Feeding families can be a real challenge. Good Neighbor Center's (GNC) moms group have experienced these situations at one time or another. But no matter what the challenge GNC moms find ways to fit good nutrition into their families' meals.

How do we know if our families are getting the right nutrients to grow healthy? Each month these questions were addressed with a variety of



nutrition topics presented by Nutrition Education Program staff. Healthy, creative and tasty meal ideas were prepared which also incorporated fun, healthy recipes to entice picky eaters.

One child-friendly menu

prepared included: Lady Bug Salad, Meatloaf Muffins, Carrot Pennies and Apple Pizza. Participants enjoyed preparing meals.

Most importantly, participants learned it takes patience to teach a family good eating habits but can be a fun learning experience too.

### Lady Bug Salad

**Lettuce leaf**  
**1/2 cored apple**  
**12 raisins**  
**1 teaspoon peanut butter**  
**5 grapes**

On lettuce leaf, place cored apple, red side up. Stick raisins on apple with dab of peanut butter. Use grapes for head and feet of ladybug.

## Web Resources of the Month

Check out the "Weight Control Tips" section of our Web site at [lancaster.unl.edu/food/#weight](http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/#weight)

View a Cook It Quick in Action tip on "Enjoying Fresh Herbs at the Table" at [lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqherbplate.htm](http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqherbplate.htm)

Discover an easy alternative when all you feel like fixing is a bowl of cereal at [lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqparfait.htm](http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqparfait.htm)

To keep up-to-date on new tips, resources and recipe ideas to help you prepare healthy foods in a hurry, sign up for our monthly **Cook It Quick** e-mail messages at [lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqupdat.htm](http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/ciqupdat.htm)





# 2003 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

## COMPLETE SCHEDULE & MAP

Includes Exhibit Entry Deadlines and Check In Times

Discover the Fun!

### July 30–Aug. 3

LANCASTER EVENT CENTER

84th & Havelock, Lincoln

(402) 441-6545

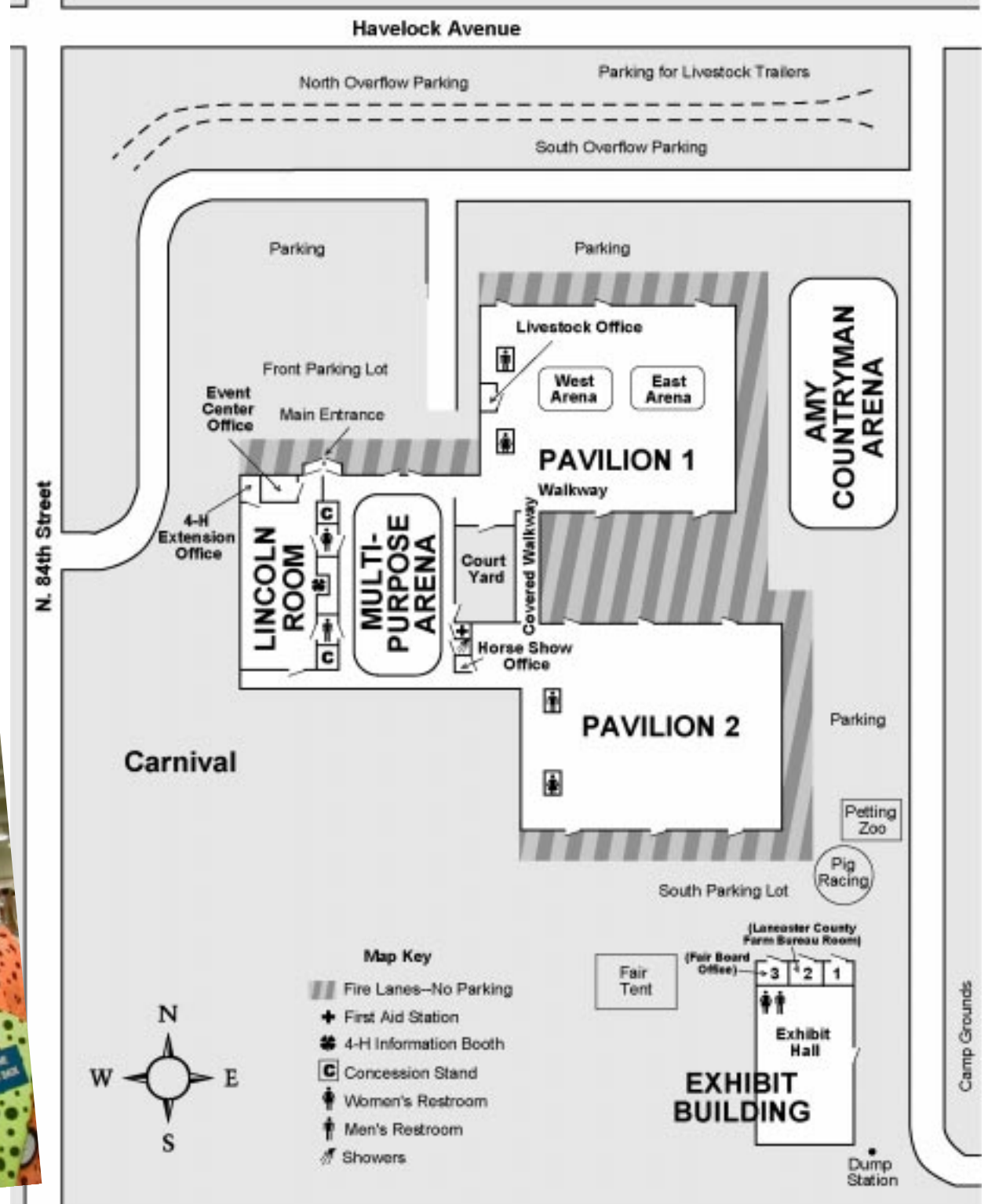
[www.lancastereventcenter.com](http://www.lancastereventcenter.com)

FAIR SPONSORS

**FROGGY 98**  
Lincoln's BEST Country



For more information about 4-H shows and activities,  
contact UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County at  
441-7180 or visit the 4-H Information Booth at the fair.



## PRE-FAIR SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, JULY 14

Open Class Beef/Dairy Cattle/Dairy Goats/Dog Agility/Dog Obedience/  
Miniature Horses/Pigeons/Poultry/Farm Products/Fine Arts/Home  
Products/Textiles Entries Due to Lancaster Event Center or Superin-  
tendents (check Open Class Fair Book for more information)

### FRIDAY, JULY 18

**4-H Demonstration Contest**  
(Lancaster Extension Education Center) ..... 1 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

4-H Style Revue Judging (Exhibit Hall) ..... 8:30 a.m.

### SATURDAY, JULY 26

Open Class Horse Entries Due & Check In  
(Multipurpose Arena) ..... prior to showtime

**Open Class Horse Show** (Multipurpose Arena) ..... 8 a.m.

### SUNDAY, JULY 27

4-H Horse Pre-Fair Briefing (Pavilion 2) ..... 2 p.m.

### MONDAY, JULY 28

4-H & Open Class Static Exhibit Check In (Lincoln Room) ..... 4–8 p.m.

Sign Up for 4-H Clover Kids Show & Tell (Lincoln Room) ..... 4–8 p.m.

### TUESDAY, JULY 29

4-H & Open Class Static Exhibit Judging (Lincoln Room) ... 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

4-H Static Exhibit Interview Judging (Lincoln Room) ..... 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

4-H Horse Check In (Pavilion 2) ..... Noon–8 p.m.

Open Class Poultry Check In (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) ..... Noon–4 p.m.

4-H Rabbit and Poultry Check In Begins (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) . 4–8 p.m.



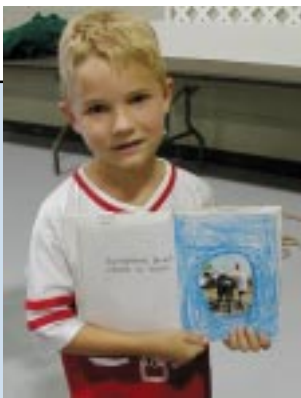
# 2003 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

4-H CONTESTS, STATIC EXHIBITS AND 4-H/FFA ANIMAL EXHIBITS HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H  
4-H INFORMATION BOOTH HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL  
STREET SIGN SPONSORED BY ALLEN'S MOBILE FLASHING SIGNS  
FAIR TENT SPONSORED BY LINCOLN TENT INC.  
"HOME OF DER VIENER SCHLINGER" SPONSORED BY ROODE PACKING COMPANY, INC.  
OPEN CLASS BREADS STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY ADM MILLING COMPANY

OPEN CLASS HORTICULTURE STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY ENCHANTED FLORIST  
OPEN CLASS QUILTS & TEXTILES STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY HANCOCK FABRICS  
OPEN CLASS HOME PRODUCTS STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY RED STAR AND RUNZA RESTAURANTS  
OPEN CLASS FINE ARTS FLOWERS STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY SEEDS OF LIFE  
OPEN CLASS TEXTILES STATIC EXHIBITS SPONSORED BY SEW CREATIVE

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

- 4-H Horse Show—Open Dressage** (Multipurpose Arena) ..... 8 a.m.  
SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN
- 4-H/FFA Sheep Check In & Weigh In (Pavilion I - West End) ..... 8–10 a.m.
- 4-H Rabbit and Poultry Check In (Pavilion I - Walkway) .... 8 a.m.–Noon
- Open Class Poultry Must be Checked In (Pavilion I - Walkway) .. 8:30 a.m.
- 4-H/FFA Swine Check In & Weigh In (Pavilion I - West End) ..... 8:30 a.m.–Noon
- 4-H & Open Class Static Exhibits Open** (Lincoln Room) . 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
- 4-H/FFA Market Beef Check In & Weigh In (Pavilion I - East Arena) ..... 9–10 a.m.
- 4-H/FFA Breeding Beef Check In & Weigh In (Pavilion I - East Arena) ..... 10–11 a.m.
- Open Class Poultry Show** (Pavilion I - Walkway) ..... 10 a.m.
- 4-H Household Pets Show Check In (Exhibit Building - Room I) .. 10–11 a.m.
- All 4-H/FFA Animals Must be In Stalls (Pavilion I) ..... Noon
- 4-H Household Pets Show/Quiz Bowl** (Exhibit Hall) ..... Noon
- 4-H Horse Show—Hunter Hack/Hunter/Jumper** (Multipurpose Arena) ..... 3 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN
- Blues Amusements Carnival — Wristband Day** ..... 5–11 p.m.
- Shriner Clowns** (strolling act) ..... Evening  
SPONSORED BY ENGINE HOUSE CAFE
- Balloon Buffoon** (strolling act) ..... Evening
- Kids Ag Awareness** (Pavilion I - East Arena) ..... 6–8 p.m.
- 4-H Household Pets Released (Exhibit Hall) ..... 7 p.m.
- 4-H Style Revue** (Exhibit Hall) ..... 7 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY HANCOCK FABRICS



Static Exhibits feature the creative work of hundreds of Lancaster County residents.



4-H'ers model their clothing projects in the Style Revue.



This year's carnival will feature more rides and more thrills!



The 4-H Household Pets Show features a wide variety of animals such as hedgehogs (pictured), hamsters, guinea pigs, ferrets, lizards, hermit crabs and canaries.

## THURSDAY, JULY 31

- Exhibitors Breakfast** (Covered Walkway) ..... 6:30–8:30 a.m.  
HOSTED BY FIRTH COOPERATIVE CO., NORRIS FFA ALUMNI, AND SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS CHURCH (HICKMAN)
- 4-H Horse Show—Hunt Seat/Saddle Seat Showmanship/English Pleasure/English Equitation** (Multipurpose Arena) . 8 a.m.  
SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN
- 4-H Goat Show/Alumni Showmanship Contest** (Pavilion I - West Arena) ..... 8 a.m.
- 4-H & Open Class Static Exhibits Open** (Lincoln Room) . 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
- Blues Amusements Carnival** ..... 1–11 p.m.
- Shriner Clowns** (strolling act) ..... Afternoon–Evening  
SPONSORED BY ENGINE HOUSE CAFE
- Balloon Buffoon** (strolling act) ..... Afternoon–Evening
- Petting Zoo** ..... Afternoon–Evening
- Racing Pigs** ..... Afternoon–Evening  
SPONSORED BY HAMILTON EQUIPMENT CO.
- 4-H/FFA Sheep Show/Alumni Showmanship Contest** (Pavilion I - West Arena) ..... 1 p.m.
- 4-H Horse Judging Contest** (Multipurpose Arena) ..... 2:30 p.m.
- Open Class Pigeons Check In (Pavilion I - Walkway) ..... 4–8 p.m.
- 4-H Poultry Show** (Pavilion I - Walkway) ..... 4 p.m.
- Watermelon Feed** (South Parking Lot) ..... 4:30 p.m.  
HOSTED BY THE FAIR BOARD WITH THE HELP OF LANCASTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SPONSORED BY COLIN ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE
- Face Painting** ..... Evening  
DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS
- 4-H Rabbit Judging Contest/Quiz Bowl** (Pavilion I - Walkway) . 5 p.m.
- 4-H Table Setting Contest** (Exhibit Hall) ..... 5 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY HILLYARD (LAVISTA)
- 4-H Horse Show—Reining/Working Pleasure/Western Riding** (Multipurpose Arena) ..... 5 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN
- Spudfest** (Lancaster County Farm Bureau Room {Exhibit Bldg - Rm 2}) ..... 6–7 p.m.  
HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL
- 4-H Llama Show** (Pavilion I - East Arena) ..... 6 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY STAYBRIDGE SUITES
- Nebraska Pioneer Farm Awards** (South Parking Lot - Fair Tent) 6 p.m.  
HOSTED BY KNIGHTS OF AK-SAR-BEN FOUNDATION AND NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF FAIR MANAGERS
- Backseat Driver Contest** (South Parking Lot) ..... 6:30 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY JOHNS & SONS REFUSE SERVICE
- 4-H Rabbit Pet Class/Breeders Choice Show** (Pavilion I - Walkway) ..... 7 p.m.
- Town Hall Meeting** (Location TBA) ..... 7–9 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY EGAN ENTERPRISES INC.



4-H'ers coordinate planned menus and table settings in the 4-H Tablesetting Contest.



Youth can get free face painting!



The Town Hall Meeting is a dialogue between the Lancaster delegation of State Senators and the public



Come cheer for the fastest pig at the Racing Pigs.



In the Backseat Driver Contest, teams of two drive through an obstacle course in a golf cart — however, the driver is blindfolded and relies on verbal directions from the passenger!



# COMPLETE SCHEDULE & MAP

## FRIDAY, AUG. 1

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Western Showmanship/Grooming and Care/Halter/Bareback Equitation</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . .   | 8 a.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>  |                   |
| <b>4-H/FFA Swine Show/Alumni Showmanship Contest</b> (Pavilion I - West Arena) . . . . .  | 8 a.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY COOK'S FAMILY FOODS</small>   |                   |
| <b>4-H Rabbit Doe &amp; Litter/Market/Breed/Fur Show</b> (Pavilion I - Walkway) . . . . .   | 8 a.m.            |
| <b>4-H/FFA Dairy Cattle Show/Alumni Showmanship Contest</b> (Pavilion I - East Arena) . . . . .   | 8 a.m.            |
| Open Class Dairy Cattle Check In (Pavilion I - Stalls) . . . . .  | 8 a.m.–10:45 a.m. |
| 4-H Dog Obedience and Showmanship/Costume Contest Check In (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .   | 8 a.m.            |
| <b>4-H &amp; Open Class Static Exhibits Open</b> (Lincoln Room) .   | 9 a.m.–9 p.m.     |
| <b>4-H Dog Obedience and Showmanship/Costume Contest Show</b> (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .  | 9 a.m.            |
| <b>Fair Fun Day—For Child Care Groups, By Invitation Only</b> (Exhibit Bldg - Rm I) . . . . .   | 9:30 a.m./1 p.m.  |
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Western Pleasure/Western Horsemanship</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .  | 11 a.m.           |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>  |                   |
| <b>Open Class Dairy Cattle Show</b> (Pavilion I - East Arena) . . . . .   | 11 a.m.           |
| <small>SPONSORED BY MEADOW GOLD DAIRY</small>   |                   |
| <b>Blues Amusements Carnival</b> . . . . .  | 1–11 p.m.         |
| <b>Shriner Clowns</b> (strolling act) . . . . .   | Afternoon–Evening |
| <small>SPONSORED BY ENGINE HOUSE CAFE</small>   |                   |
| <b>Balloon Buffoon</b> (strolling act) . . . . .  | Afternoon–Evening |
| <b>Petting Zoo</b> . . . . .  | Afternoon–Evening |
| <b>Racing Pigs</b> . . . . .  | Afternoon–Evening |
| <small>SPONSORED BY HAMILTON EQUIPMENT CO.</small>  |                   |
| <b>4-H Rabbit Showmanship Show</b> (Pavilion I - Walkway) . . . . .   | 1 p.m.            |
| 4-H Dog Agility Check In (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .   | 1 p.m.            |
| <b>4-H Dog Agility Show</b> (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .  | 1 p.m.            |
| Open Class Longhorns Check In (Pavilion I - East Arena) . . . . .   | 4–5 p.m.          |
| <b>Open Class Longhorns Show</b> (Pavilion I - East Arena) . . . . .  | 5–7 p.m.          |
| <small>SPONSORED BY AWARDS UNLIMITED INC.</small>   |                   |
| <b>Face Painting</b> . . . . .  | Evening           |
| <small>DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS</small>  |                   |
| <b>Family Barbecue</b> (South Parking Lot) . . . . .  | 5:30 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY THE FAIR BOARD WITH THE HELP OF LINCOLN CENTER KIWANIS<br/>SPONSORED BY AGP GRAIN COOPERATIVE, PANAMA LOCKER (PANAMA), AND WELLS FARGO BANK NEBRASKA</small> |                   |
| <b>Ice Cream Social</b> (South Parking Lot) . . . . .   | 5:30 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL</small>  |                   |
| <b>Cookie Eating Contest</b> (South Parking Lot) . . . . .  | 5:30 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL; SPONSORED BY ROTELLAS BAKERY</small>  |                   |
| <b>Celebrity Swine Show</b> (Pavilion I - West Arena) . . . . .   | 6 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY LINWELD, INC.</small>   |                   |
| Open Class Dairy Goats Check In Begins (Pavilion I - West Arena) .  | 6 p.m.            |
| <b>4-H Rabbit Specialty Show</b> (Pavilion I - Walkway) . . . . .   | 6 p.m.            |
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Roping/Working Ranch</b> (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . . .   | 7 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>  |                   |
| <b>4-H/FFA Hay Hauling Contest</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .   | 7 p.m.            |
| <small>HOSTED AND SPONSORED BY RAYMOND CENTRAL FFA ALUMNI</small>   |                   |
| <b>Teen Dance</b> (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .  | 8–11 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL<br/>SPONSORED BY FIRST STATE BANK (HICKMAN) AND THE FORT WESTERN OUTFITTERS</small>  |                   |



Showmanship is one of several events in the 4-H Western Horse Show.



The 4-H Dog Show includes Obedience, Showmanship, Costume, Agility and a Dog Quiz Bowl.



An annual fundraiser for Lancaster County 4-H Teen Council, the Ice Cream Social is open to all.



Rabbits take the show at the 4-H Rabbit Show.



Photo courtesy of Vantage Imaging

In the Celebrity Swine Show, local celebrities attempt to guide a pig through an obstacle course. This year's celebrities include County Commissioner Bernie Heier, Sheriff's Deputy Bartek, Executive Ambassador Kasey Matoush from the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Sandy Burkland from Goodyear, Brian Jennings from 96KX, Gary Greenwood from Froggy 98, Tim Strong from Channel 8 and a surprise honorary.

## SATURDAY, AUG. 2

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Open Class Dairy Goats Must Be Checked In (Pavilion I - West Arena) . . . . .   | 7 a.m.        |
| Open Class Rabbit Show Check In (Exhibit Hall - South End) . . . . .  | 7 a.m.        |
| <b>Open Class Dairy Goat Show</b> (Pavilion I - West Arena) . . . . .   | 8 a.m.        |
| <b>Open Class Rabbit Show</b> (Exhibit Hall - South End) . . . . .  | 8 a.m.        |
| <b>4-H/FFA Beef Show/Alumni Showmanship Contest</b> (Pavilion I - East Arena) . . . . .   | 8 a.m.        |
| <small>SPONSORED BY FARM CREDIT SERVICES OF AMERICA, FARMERS COOPERATIVE CO. (WAVERLY), MISTY'S RESTAURANT &amp; LOUNGE, PATTERSON SUPPLY COMPANY (PANORA, IOWA ), AND UNION BANK &amp; TRUST CO. — AG LOAN DEPT.</small> |               |
| <b>4-H Demonstration Contest</b> (Lancaster County Farm Bureau Room {Exhibit Bldg - Rm 2}). . . . .   | 8 a.m.        |
| <b>4-H Miniature Horse Show</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .  | 8 a.m.        |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>  |               |
| 4-H Cat Show Check In and Vet Check (Exhibit Building - Room I) . . . . .   | 8–8:45 a.m.   |
| <b>4-H &amp; Open Class Static Exhibits Open</b> (Lincoln Room)   | 9 a.m.–9 p.m. |
| <b>4-H Cat Show/Quiz Bowl</b> (Exhibit Hall - North End) . . . . .  | 9 a.m.        |
| <b>Open Class Pigeon Show</b> (Pavilion I - Walkway) . . . . .  | 9 a.m.        |
| <b>4-H Bicycle Contest</b> (South Parking Lot) . . . . .  | 9–11 a.m.     |
| <small>SPONSORED BY HUSKER ELECTRIC SUPPLY</small>  |               |

4-H'ers and FFA members compete for top honors in the 4-H/FFA Beef Show.



4-H'ers learn skills such as speaking in front of groups, how to use visual aids and presenting information clearly in the 4-H Demonstration Contest.



Pleasure Driving (left) is one of the classes in the 4-H Miniature Horse Show.



# COMPLETE FAIR SCHEDULE & MAP

## SATURDAY, AUG. 2

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Trail Show</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .  | 10 a.m.           |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>   |                   |
| <b>Big Wheel Race</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .  | Noon              |
| <small>HOSTED AND SPONSORED BY LANCASTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC.</small>                                      |                   |
| <b>Blues Amusements Carnival</b> . . . . .   | Noon–11 p.m.      |
| <b>Shriner Clowns</b> (strolling act) . . . . .  | Afternoon–Evening |
| <small>SPONSORED BY ENGINE HOUSE CAFE</small>  |                   |
| <b>Balloon Buffoon</b> (strolling act) . . . . .   | Afternoon–Evening |
| <b>Petting Zoo</b> . . . . .   | Afternoon–Evening |
| <b>Racing Pigs</b> . . . . .   | Afternoon–Evening |
| <small>SPONSORED BY HAMILTON EQUIPMENT CO.</small>   |                   |
| Open Class Dog Agility Check In (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .   | Noon–1 p.m.       |
| <b>Team Penning</b> (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . . .   | Noon–4 p.m.       |
| <b>4-H Clover Kids—Show and Tell</b> (Lincoln Room) . . . . .  | 1 p.m.            |
| <b>Open Class Dog Agility Show</b> (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .  | 1 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY THE PET ARK</small>  |                   |
| <b>4-H/FFA Bucket Calf Interviews</b> (Livestock Office) . . . . .   | TBA               |
| <b>Lancaster County Pedal Tractor Pull</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .                                 | 2 p.m.            |
| <small>HOSTED AND SPONSORED BY LANCASTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC.</small>                                      |                   |
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Drill Teams/Horsemanship Pairs</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .                            | 2:30 p.m.         |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>   |                   |
| 4-H Cats Released (Exhibit Hall - North End) . . . . .   | 4 p.m.            |
| Open Class Miniature Horse Check In (Pavilion 2) . . . . .   | 4 p.m.            |
| <b>4-H Horse Recognition Ceremony</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .   | 4:30 p.m.         |
| <b>4-H/FFA Bucket Calf Show</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .  | 5 p.m.            |
| <b>4-H Horse Show—Keyhole Race/Pole Bending/Figure 8 Stake Race/Barrel Race</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . . | 5 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY EXPERIAN</small>   |                   |
| <b>4-H/FFA Prettiest Calf Contest</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .                                      | 6 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY MODERN METHODS INC.</small>  |                   |
| <b>Face Painting</b> . . . . .   | Evening           |
| <small>DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS</small>                                       |                   |
| Open Class Beef Check In Begins (Pavilion 1- Stalls) . . . . .   | 6 p.m.            |
| Team Roping Check In (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . . .  | 6 p.m.            |
| <b>Team Roping</b> (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . . .  | 7 p.m.            |
| <small>SPONSORED BY STATE FARM INSURANCE — BEV HIGGINS AGENT AND WOODS BROTHERS REALTY</small>                 |                   |
| <b>4-H Rabbit Awards</b> (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) . . . . .  | TBA               |
| <b>Live Entertainment—Marcel and High Caliber</b> (Open Field - Southeast Corner) . . . . .                    | 8:30–11:30 p.m.   |
| <small>SPONSORED BY DOUBLE EAGLE BEVERAGE AND EGAN ENTERPRISES INC.</small>                                    |                   |
| Release of 4-H/FFA Animals Begins . . . . .  | 10 p.m.           |



The Big Wheel Race is for ages 3 to 8. Trophies are awarded — register at the event.



4-H Clover Kids (youth ages 5–8) may perform a skit at 4-H Clover Kids—Show and Tell.



Country singer Marcel (above) and opening band High Caliber (right) provide live entertainment Saturday night.



In the 4-H/FFA Prettiest Calf Contest, teams of three youth dress up a calf, steer or heifer.



## SUNDAY, AUG. 3

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Open Class Beef Must be Checked In (Pavilion 1- Stalls) . . . . .  | 6 a.m.         |
| Open Class Sheep Check In (Pavilion 1) . . . . .   | 7–8 a.m.       |
| <b>Open Class Miniature Horse Show</b> (Multipurpose Arena) . . . . .  | 8 a.m.         |
| Open Class Swine Check In (Pavilion 1) . . . . .   | 8–9 a.m.       |
| <b>4-H &amp; Open Class Static Exhibits Open</b> (Lincoln Room) . . . . .  | 9 a.m.–2 p.m.  |
| <b>Open Class Beef Show</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .  | 9 a.m.         |
| <small>SPONSORED BY ROODE PACKING COMPANY, INC. (FAIRBURY)</small>   |                |
| <b>Open Class Swine Show</b> (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) . . . . .   | 9 a.m.         |
| <b>Open Class Sheep Show</b> (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) . . . . .   | 10 a.m.        |
| <b>U.S. &amp; Canadian International Pedal Pull Championships</b> (Exhibit Hall) . . . . .                         | 10 a.m./1 p.m. |
| <small>HOSTED BY COUNTRY INN &amp; SUITES AND DUTEAU CHEVROLET/SUBARU</small>                                      |                |
| Car Show & Shine Registration (Front Parking Lot) . . . . .  | 10 a.m.–Noon   |
| Open Class Dog Obedience Check In (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .  | Noon           |
| <b>Blues Amusements Carnival — Wristband Day</b> . . . . .   | Noon–9 p.m.    |
| <b>Petting Zoo</b> . . . . .   | Afternoon      |
| <b>Racing Pigs</b> . . . . .   | Afternoon      |
| <small>SPONSORED BY HAMILTON EQUIPMENT CO.</small>   |                |
| <b>Car Show N' Shine</b> (Front Parking Lot) . . . . .   | Noon–4 p.m.    |
| <small>HOSTED BY CAPITOL CITY FORD &amp; MUSTANG CLUB; SPONSORED BY ROODE PACKING COMPANY, INC. (FAIRBURY)</small> |                |
| <b>Micro-Mini Tractor Pull</b> (South Parking Lot - Fair Tent) . . . . .   | 1 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY MICRO-MINI TRACTOR PULLERS ASSOCIATION</small>  |                |
| <b>Wacky Rodeo—Fun Entertainment</b> (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . . .  | 1–3 p.m.       |
| <small>SPONSORED BY BEST WESTERN VILLAGER MOTOR INN</small>  |                |
| <b>Open Class Dog Obedience Show</b> (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) . . . . .   | 2 p.m.         |
| <small>SPONSORED BY CAPITOL ANIMAL CLINIC</small>  |                |
| <b>4-H/FFA All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Safety Contest</b> (Location TBA) . . . . .                                   | 2 p.m.         |
| <small>HOSTED BY NORRIS FFA ALUMNI</small>   |                |
| 4-H & Open Class Static Exhibits Released (Lincoln Room) . . . . .   | 2–4 p.m.       |



This is the first year for the 4-H/FFA ATV Safety Contest at the fair.



Winners from last year's state pedal pulls compete in the U.S. & Canadian International Pedal Pull Championships.



The Car Show N' Shine is an "All Breed Show" hosted by the Capitol City Ford & Mustang Club.

Photo courtesy of Vantage Imaging

Photo courtesy of Vantage Imaging



## Lines from Lynn

**Lynn Bush**  
FCE Council Chair

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. The weather is finally acting like summer. Just a few dates to put on your calendar.

Aug. 18 and 19, FCE State Convention in Syracuse.  
Sept. 22, FCE Council Meeting hosted by Emerald and



Home Service Clubs.  
Oct. 20, FCE Achievement Night hosted by Busy Bees and Helpful Homemakers Clubs.

Reorganizational materials will be ready in late August for the 2004 club year.

While you're gardening, vacationing or just trying to stay cool, think about ways to involve more people in the FCE program.



*Troy Stauffer, a student nurse, received the 2003 Lancaster County FCE scholarship.*



by Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

### Stay Cool This Summer While Saving Energy

Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible in the summer. The less difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your overall cooling bill will be. If you use an air conditioner, don't set your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn it on. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense. If you're shopping for an air conditioner, look for the Energy Star and EnergyGuide labels. (LB)

## FAMILY COMMUNITY EDUCATION (FCE) NEWS

### FCE Leader Training Date Change

The FCE and community leader training, "The 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle)" originally scheduled for Sept. 23 has been **rescheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 30** at 1 p.m. (LB)

## When Times are Tough: Do We Need to Make Things Worse With a Poor Attitude?

Things are difficult today for many families, whether urban or rural, and yet many families are doing OK. What makes the difference between families who are hardly functioning and others who seem to thrive? Well there are no easy answers to explain human behavior because it is so complex. However, what we do know is 'attitude' is often the key to whether a person will survive and thrive.

What is your general attitude towards your life? Are you basically happy and content with who you are? Are you happy with your work, your home and your relationships? Do you believe you have control over many things in your life? Do you

believe you can change some things to make life better? Do you have hope for the future?

Attitude, your manner or disposition, is a critical factor in determining how you perceive things that happen to you during your day, your week and ultimately your life. It isn't that we must be 'happy-go-lucky' all the time, nor live as though we have no cares, because it simply isn't practical. With economic hardships, drought conditions and war in the middle east, families are experiencing difficult times. These difficult times are not to be ignored because they are a reality. But it is how we deal with our reality that makes a difference to how we handle life.

Take a few moments to do

an attitude check on yourself. It may be you need to make some changes. Are you taking care of yourself? Are you taking care of your intimate partner relationship? Are you nurturing relationships with family and friends you love? Are you around other people who are a positive influence on you? Do you need to see a professional counselor who can help you work through some things hurting you and affecting your attitude toward life?

You are your own best asset. Take care of yourself and your attitude!

*Source: Kathy Bosch, Extension Specialist, Family Life Education (LB)*

## Put Laughter and Humor in Your Life

Laughter is very powerful medicine. It can lower stress, dissolve anger and unite families in their resolve to overcome troubled times.

### The Benefits of Laughter

Everyone enjoys a good hearty laugh. It makes us feel good, and that good feeling can stay with us even after the laughter subsides. Laughter helps us see small things are not the earth-shaking events they sometimes seem to be. It enables us to look at a problem from a different point of view, make it seem less serious and realize opportunities for increased objectivity and insight.

**Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.** It binds us together, lightens our burdens and helps us keep things in perspective. Our work, marriage and family all need humor, celebrations, play and ritual as much as record-keeping

and problem-solving. We should ask the questions, "Do we laugh together?" as well as, "Can we get through this hardship together?" Laughter can help us see the *silver lining* instead of just storm clouds.

**Humor unites us, especially when we laugh together.** One of the things that divides humans is the energy we put into coping with life's problems or concentrating on each other's limitations. Our friends and neighbors are not perfect, and neither is our marriage or family life. When we laugh together, it can bind us closer together instead of putting us in opposite camps.

**Laughter heals.** Laughter activates the chemistry of the will to live and increases our capacity to fight disease. The chest expands when laughing, respiration increases and forces exhausted air from the lungs. Laughing relaxes the body and problems associated with high blood pressure, strokes, arthritis,

ulcers and heart disease are sometimes, reduced.

Here's how can you add laughter and humor to your everyday life:

- Hang around funny friends, or better yet, marry a funny partner.
- Start looking for the absurd, silly, incongruous activities that go on around you each day.
- Take a 5-10 minute humor break each day. Read jokes, add to a humor notebook, listen to a funny tape.
- Rent comedy videos, go to a funny movie, watch humorous programs on television.
- If you hear a joke you really like, write it down, or tell it to someone else to help you remember it.

Try to remember that even in the most difficult of times, a laugh, or even simply a smile, can go a long way in helping you feel better. Laughs and smiles are enjoyed best when shared with others. To laugh or not to laugh is your choice. (LB)

## Parenting in Public

Summertime finds families at the swimming pool, ball games, county fair and other public activities. This is a time when parenting can be stressful. How do you handle a child who doesn't want to listen or misbehaves? What are other people going to say about the way you deal with a difficult situation?

Parents can set standards in the home for disciplining a misbehaving child, but these standards often are forgotten when the child is disruptive in public.

Dealing with a complaining child is difficult for parents when in the public eye, because they feel others are watching and judging their parental skills.

Parents want to solve the disruption as quickly as possible, but don't want to be inconsistent with family rules. This can lead parents to be overly angry or overly compliant with the child.

Children often act up because they are tired or are doing something they don't want to do and don't know how to behave rationally in public settings.

Being too punitive can be perceived by those watching as both physically and emotionally abusive to the child. Often, the more upset the parent gets, the more disruptive the child gets.

However, if parents constantly give in, children learn

they can have their way if they make a big enough fuss.

To ease this dilemma, parents must have rules for children and stick to them. But they also must pick their battles carefully. Too many rules and too many demands make life for parents and children difficult.

***Children often act up because they are tired or are doing something they don't want to do and don't know how to behave rationally in public settings.***

Maintaining a positive attitude is important because, in general, when the parent's happy, the child's happy.

Your summer activities can be enjoyed by both parents and children if there is an understanding of expectations and the consequences if those expectations are not met.

*Adapted from article by John DeFrain, Ph.D., family and community development specialist, NU/LANR (LB)*

## CHARACTER COUNTS! CORNER

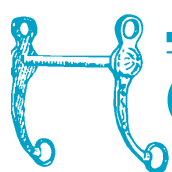
### A Person of Character...

- Is a good person, someone to look up to and admire.
- Knows the difference between right and wrong and always tries to do what is right.
- Sets a good example for everyone.
- Makes the world a better place.
- Lives according to the "Six Pillars of Character":

**Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.**  
(LB)







## HORSE BITS

### District Horse Shows Results

District Horse Shows were held in Nebraska June 15–26. 4-H'ers representing Lancaster County were present at shows in McCook, West Point, Beatrice and Columbus.

Lancaster County exhibitors did well in the shows. At least two Lancaster County exhibitors took home championship trophies: Christi Vidlak (shown in picture) in English



*Christi Vidlak won a championship trophy in English Horsemanship at the District Horse Shows.*

Horsemanship, and Taylor Holliday in Pole Bending. Complete results are posted online at [4h.unl.edu/disthorseresults.htm](http://4h.unl.edu/disthorseresults.htm)

The State Horse Show in Grand Island will be held July 11–15.

### New F.A.I.R. Livestock Incentive Program

This year, a livestock incentive program will begin for 4-H and FFA members in Lancaster County called Future Agriculturist Incentive and Rewards (F.A.I.R.). Youth in the program participate in livestock-related educational activities throughout the year to earn points towards cash awards and college scholarships.

Funds will come from Alumni Showmanship contests held at the County Fair (judges can be bribed with cash!). In addition, donations by local families and businesses will help make the program possible. If you would like to make a donation to F.A.I.R., please contact Deanna Karmazin at 441-7180 or Harry Muhlbach at 785-3815.

### 2002 State Fair Clothing Pins Are In

At the 2002 Nebraska State Fair, clothing pins were awarded to all 4-H'ers receiving purple ribbons. Some 4-H'ers, however, did not receive the pins at that time. If you met the criteria for a pin but did not receive one, they are now available at our office. (TK)

### Pick Up Your Volunteer Pins

Volunteer pins are available from our office for all 4-H leaders who have completed the "Volunteer Profile." If you have not completed the profile yet, please do so as this is a requirement for all 4-H leaders. (TK)

### Regional Volunteer Forum Nov. 13–16

Information is now available for this year's North Central Regional Volunteer Forum. This year's forum will be Nov. 13–16 in Peoria, Illinois. Share ideas with other volunteers, share experiences, challenges and successes. You can also participate in educational sessions and activities designed to increase your effectiveness and competencies. Some educational sessions include:

- Electrifying Your 4-H Program
- How to Impact Teens
- Kids & Clubs: Make the Most of 4-H Meetings

Volunteers also will have the opportunity to go on a variety of tours to places such as a River City Tour and Tanner's Orchard. Early-bird, full-time registration is \$200 and is due Sept. 15. Please contact the office to receive additional information. A limited number of scholarships are available from the 4-H Council. (TK)

## COUNTY FAIR 4-H NEWS

### 2003 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

Discover the Fun!

JULY 30–AUGUST 3

The 2003 Lancaster County Fair Books have been mailed to 4-H families and past Open Class exhibitors. Copies of the 4-H/FFA and Open Class Fair Books are available at the Extension office and Lancaster Event Center during business hours. A limited supply is also available at local banks, libraries and post offices throughout the community. A list of locations, as well as the 4-H/FFA Fair Book, are online at [lancaster.unl.edu/4H/fair](http://lancaster.unl.edu/4H/fair).

### Fair Volunteers Are Needed!

Volunteer helpers (ages 12 and over) are needed to help at the County Fair in the following capacities:

- Check in exhibits on entry day — July 28
- Assist judges on judging day — July 29
- Put up project displays — July 29
- Help in the information booth — July 30–Aug. 3

Call 441-7180 to sign up. Your help is appreciated! (TK)

### Food Booth Training July 24

ALL County Fair food booth volunteers are encouraged to attend this training at the Lancaster Event Center, Thursday, July 24, 6–7 p.m. Learn about food safety, customer service and volunteer responsibilities. See you there! (TK)

### Show & Tell for Clover Kids

All Clover Kids, youth age 5–7 by January 1, 2003, are invited to show & tell their 4-H exhibits at the Lancaster County Fair, Saturday, Aug. 2, starting at 1 p.m. Clover Kids Show & Tell is held in the Lincoln Room at the Lancaster Event Center. Youth are also invited to do a skit or song at this time. See page 11 of the 4-H/FFA Fair Book for more information. To register, call 441-7180 by Friday, July 25, or sign up at the static exhibit area Monday, July 28, 4–8 p.m. (TK)

### Interview Judging

4-H'ers have the opportunity to talk to judges about their fair exhibits and share their trials and lessons they learned. 4-H'ers also learn what the judge looks for and how to improve skills. This year 4-H'ers may interview judge ONE exhibit from each project area (for example: one item from Celebrate Art, one item from Design Decisions, and one item from Tasty Tidbits). Refer to page 21 of the 4-H/FFA Fair Book for project areas that have interview judging. Call the office at 441-7180 to sign up for a five-minute time slot. Interview judging is Tuesday, July 29, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. in the Lincoln Room. (TK)

### Celebrate Arts Class Number Changes

Please note the following changes in class numbers for "Celebrate Arts" in the Home Environment (p. 42 of the 2003 Lancaster County 4-H/FFA Fair Book). Please use these numbers on the Static Exhibit Entry Tags.

|                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| C260001 Fiber    | C260009 Chalk               |
| C260002 Clay     | C260010 Carbon/Ink          |
| C260003 Textiles | C260011 Pigment/Water Color |
| C260004 Wood     | C260012 Nature Materials    |
| C260005 Glass    | C260013 Mixed Media         |
| C260006 Ceramic  | C260014 Portfolio           |
| C260007 Paper    |                             |
| C260008 Metal    |                             |

### Horse Show Reminders

- Here are some quick reminders about the 2003 Lancaster County Fair 4-H Horse Show:
- The Horse Pre-Fair briefing will be 2 p.m., Sunday, July 27 in Pavilion II. Exhibitors may pick up their packets and decorate their stalls at that time.
  - Horse check-in will begin at noon on Tuesday, July 29.
  - Animals are released at 10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2.
  - The Horse Awards Night will be 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 5.

### Alumni Showmanship Contests

Following the 4-H/FFA livestock shows (beef, dairy, sheep, swine, goat), Alumni Showmanship contests will be held. Alumni and all community members are invited to show off their showmanship skills. *Note: judges can be bribed with cash!* An animal will be provided the day of the show. Registration will be taken during each 4-H/FFA show.

### 4-H/FFA Livestock Exhibitor T-Shirts Available

County fair livestock exhibitor T-shirts are available for \$6.50 at the extension office and the county fair. The shirts have both 4-H and FFA logos displayed on the front. The 50/50 cotton/polyester shirts are stone (tan) with burgundy design. Adult sizes available are S, M, X & XL.



### Livestock Photos

This year, each exhibitor is responsible for their own photos, if desired. The Armstrongs from Vantage Imaging will be available during the fair. Please see Joel or Karen to make arrangements to schedule photos.

### Prettiest Cow Contest

In the Prettiest Cow Contest, teams of three 4-H'ers or FFA members dress up a calf, steer or heifer. Only animals shown in the Lancaster County 4-H/FFA Dairy, Beef or Bucket Calf shows can be used. Prizes will be awarded for: Prettiest Cow, Most Original, Most Unusual and others may be added day of show. Contact Julia French at 441-7180 for any questions.



# 4-H'ers in Spotlight at Saltdogs Game

More than 600 4-H'ers participated in "Discover 4-H, Discover You" night at the Saltdogs on Friday, June 20. Prior to the game, 4-H'ers and their families paraded around the field.

Dwayne Wittstruck, surrounded by members of his family, threw the first pitch. The Wittstrucks are a three-generation 4-H family.

## Dwayne Wittstruck Still Strives to "Make the Best Better"

When Dwayne Wittstruck was invited to throw the first pitch for "Discover 4-H, Discover You" night at the Saltdogs, he was a little surprised: Basketball is his game. He has coached junior high boys and girls at Crete the past 12 years, although he's played a little baseball and coached a little softball when his granddaughter Courtney played for the Lincoln Swingers.

But it wasn't his fastball they wanted. He was on the mound to represent three generations of 4-H at the "Discover 4-H, Discover You!" night. Three generations were present. Wittstruck isn't the oldest former 4-H'er in Lancaster County — he was a charter member in 1934 of the Henny Penny Poultry Club — but he's one of 4-H's top boosters. He was a longtime leader of the Rokeby Dairy Club. "My family received more benefits from 4-H than any other activity," he says, "It was something our family did together."

Children Craig, Marc and Laurie received many state and national awards

Grace Farley sang the national anthem. She is only one of two youth who has sung the National Anthem at a Saltdogs game this season. She auditioned at the Saltdogs national anthem auditions prior to their season.

Terra Thomson and Jessica Stephenson, delivered public announcements (PA's) during the game.

and scholarships — benefits any 4-H'er can earn if they work hard. But there were unexpected benefits like meeting their future spouses at 4-H camp (Craig), on the East Campus bus (Marc), and a national 4-H show in California (Laurie). Dwayne credits 4-H for adding Colleen, Holly and Bill to the family, along with grandkids Courtney, Casey, Cole, Lindsay, Stephanie, Mallory and Alexa — all former or present members of the Rokeby Ramblers 4-H club.

Dwayne prepared for his first pitch at the Saltdogs by pitching to his wife, Joan, a few hours before the game. His pitch to the Saltdogs catcher was in the strike zone but a tad low. "The pitcher's mound was so doggone high it made my pitch low. I should've had a warm-up pitch first."

That's Dwayne Wittstruck. Never satisfied. Always wanting to "make the best better" — whether it's kids, cows, basketball or throwing the first pitch at the Saltdogs game.



Dwayne Wittstruck



Grace Farley



Terra Thomson (shown with Mark Taylor, public announcer for the Saltdogs)



Jessica Stephenson

# 4-H Council Opportunities

Seeking qualified applicants for 4-H Council youth and adults in the following geographic areas:

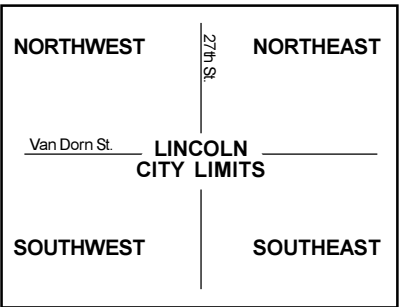
- Northeast — youth
- Northwest — youth
- Southwest — adult and youth
- Southeast — adult
- Lancaster County at large — adult

**Term length:** Adults — 3 years, Youth — 2 years  
**Starting date:** Oct. 1, 2003

**Requirements:** Proactively work for the future of the 4-H program in Lancaster County. Possess an interest, an understanding of youth and be willing to promote the 4-H program.

**Benefits:** The gratitude of volunteers, parents and 4-H youth throughout the county.

Interested applicants call 441-7180 for further information and an application form. (TK)



## Recycle Ink Jet Cartridges and Help 4-H CWF

The Lancaster County Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) group is collecting computer printer ink jet cartridges as part of a "Children Helping Children" recycling program. CWF will receive \$3 per cartridge and the empty cartridges are diverted from the landfill.

The following types of ink cartridges are accepted: all Hewlett Packard, all Lexmark, all Compaq, and Canon BC01/02/05, Bc20 and BX3.

Help CWF and the environment by saving these ink jet cartridges from home and work. Empty cartridges can be dropped off at the extension office or the Lancaster Event Center. Your help is greatly appreciated! (DK)

JULY

## Sheri Ramirez



Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council are proud to announce Sheri Ramirez as winner of July's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

A 4-H volunteer for 10 years, Sheri is co-leader of the Flamingos and Pet Pals 4-H clubs. She is co-superintendent of the 4-H Household Pets Show at the County Fair. She has also helped out with Character Counts and Clover College. Her daughter, Amber, was a 4-H'er for 12 years and graduated from high school last year.

Sheri was nominated by Shirley Condon who said, "Sheri has a genuine compassion for kids and animals. A single mom with two jobs, she still makes time to volunteer. Her enthusiasm is inspiring."

"I like being a 4-H volunteer because 4-H is so inclusive of all kids regardless of talent or abilities," Sheri said. "It can meet the needs of most any child to belong to a club, hold an office or win a fair ribbon." She is involved with the Household Pets Show & Quiz Bowl so that city kids who can't show livestock can still show a "critter" at the fair.

Sheri also volunteers at Madonna's Angel Dogs therapy program and Lincoln Pet Partners (another pet therapy program). She works at University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the Burr-Fedde-Love Residence Halls.

Something most people don't know about Sheri is she loves to make up silly songs to sing to her three dogs!

Congratulations to Sheri. Volunteers like her are indeed, the heart of 4-H!



## Nominate Your Favorite 4-H Volunteer!

A "Heart of 4-H Award" is awarded to a Lancaster County 4-H volunteer each month! Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer or leader by submitting the following form (also available online at [lancaster.unl.edu/4h](http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h)). Nominations of co-volunteers accepted.



I, \_\_\_\_\_, nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
for a "Heart of 4-H Award" because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I can be reached at (phone) \_\_\_\_\_ or (e-mail) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: UNL Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Rd, Ste. A, Lincoln, NE 68528.



## EXTENSION HIGHLIGHTS

### 4-H Interns Assist Extension Staff During Summer



Extension's 4-H interns (L-R) Julia French and Sarah Pankoke

Each summer, two interns join the 4-H staff at the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County and provide much needed assistance for Clover College, the County Fair, contests, workshops and other activities as needed.

Intern Julia French is assisting Extension Associate Deanna Karmazin in the livestock areas. This is Julia's second year as a 4-H intern. She is a senior at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in agriculture education. She will graduate in May 2004. In the spring semester, Julia will be student teaching in Randolph. Julia grew up on a farm near Eagle and was very active showing sheep, cattle and other projects in 4-H and FFA.

Intern Sarah Pankoke is assisting Extension Associate Tracy Kulm in the family and consumer science areas. Sarah is a senior at UNL, majoring in Family and Consumer Science. She will graduate this August. Sarah is originally from Seward County where she grew up on a farm near Beaver Crossing. Sarah was a 4-H'er for more than eight years, taking part in many projects, club activities and contests.

### Partners in Pollution Prevention Intern Assists Businesses

The Partners in Pollution Prevention (P3) program is an 11-week program which is part of a UNL civil engineering class, "Pollution Prevention – Principles and Practice."

P3 intern Vince Kuppig is working at the UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County office. This summer, Vince will work with local businesses and provide them with pollution-reducing assistance that can potentially help save money as well as ease environmental stress.

As part of his internship, Vince will provide public education on pollution prevention to various civic groups. He is a senior at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in civil engineering. Vince grew up in Lincoln, graduating from Lincoln Southeast High School.

The P3 program is in its seventh year. During the first six years, 81 program interns have worked with 260 Nebraska businesses such as farm cooperatives, dry cleaners, paint shops, metal platers, auto repair shops and more.



Partners in Pollution Prevention intern Vince Kuppig

## 2003 Lancaster County Pioneer Farm Families

The Nebraska Pioneer Farm Awards program honors farm families in Nebraska whose land has been owned by members of the same family for 100 years or more. Honoree's receive an engraved plaque and a gatepost marker as permanent recognition of this milestone. To date, nearly 6,000 families in 93 Nebraska counties have been honored.

These awards are sponsored by the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben Foundation and the Nebraska Association of Fair Managers.

The Lancaster County 2003 Awards will be presented at the Lancaster County Fair, Thursday, July 31, 6 p.m. in the fair tent of the south parking lot.

Congratulations are extended to this year's recipients:

- Harlan and Phyllis Kuster, Hickman (family farm north of Hickman)
- Johanna Hesser, Adams (family farm south of Panama)
- Mrs. Virginia S. Rolofson, Lincoln (family farm north of Lincoln)

Come to the fair and help recognize these families. (GB)

## Distance Education at UNL on the Rise

Enrollments in distance education courses are up nearly 20 percent at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

According to UNL registration data, enrollments for the spring 2003 semester rose 19.2 percent from fall 2002 numbers to 1,413. This is also a 21.4 percent increase from the previous spring.

This increase comes at a time when budget cuts have forced administrators to look closely at priorities. All areas of the university have been affected, including extended education, but it remains a strong priority.

UNL has been offering distance-delivered courses for more than 90 years, initially providing print-based courses for students in Nebraska. Today, UNL prepares, coordinates and delivers courses utilizing a variety of technologies to students in Nebraska, across the nation and around the world. Actually, the university's distance programs bring quality educational opportunities to students in all 93 Nebraska counties, all 50 states and more than 135 countries around the world.

Although courses reach across the globe, the primary focus is on serving the citizens of Nebraska. With nearly two-



thirds of its students residing within the state, the Office of Extended Education and Outreach (EEO) partners with UNL's academic colleges to determine new programs based on regional needs. Programs are kept small enough to ensure quality instruction and student services. They also look at available resources at other universities to reduce costs for existing and new programs.

UNL distance education allows students to:

- participate in an in-depth and high-quality learning experience
- interact with distinguished UNL faculty and students from around the world
- benefit from various student services, such as advising, online registration, computer and technical assistance, library access and career

services

- balance work, family and other time commitments while taking courses and earning their degree
- choose courses and programs from six UNL academic colleges

Distance education offers 14 masters degrees, two doctoral degrees, three endorsement programs and two certificate programs available through UNL via the Internet and other technologies including interactive TV,

videoconferencing and CD-ROM. Most courses are delivered online, though, giving students anytime, anywhere access to course materials and one-on-one interaction with their professors.

The EEO Web site at [extended.unl.edu](http://extended.unl.edu) provides details on all of UNL's distance offerings and how to get started.

Registration is currently under way for fall courses, which begin Aug. 25, with more than 80 courses to choose from. An up-to-date listing of courses is available on the Web site. Viewers can display courses by semester and subject area and should remember to select the box to display only distance courses.

For more information, contact Extended Education and Outreach at 472-0400.

## This Nebraska student gets the picture.

**CRYSTAL CORMAN**, an advertising major from Edgar, NE, works as a photojournalist for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln student newspaper. She developed a passion for photography in Australia where she studied for a semester. At Nebraska, Crystal found a place she could broaden her horizons: "The University of Nebraska-Lincoln offers so many opportunities on campus and through study abroad programs. It's really the best of both worlds."

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## The 2003 Nebraska State Fair



Tradition  
with a twist

August 23–September 1

In an effort to reduce costs, State Fair entry books will be available only on the Internet. No books will be printed or mailed. Open Class award and entry books & entry forms are online at [www.statefair.org](http://www.statefair.org). The 2003 4-H State Fair Fairbook is online at [4h.unl.edu/fair/2003](http://4h.unl.edu/fair/2003).



EXTENSION CALENDAR

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

JULY

- 11 Extension Board Meeting ..... 8 a.m.  
11 Pesticide Container Recycling Collection, *Farmers Cooperative, Waverly* ... 9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
13 Dine Out for 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF),  
*Don & Millie's, 5200 S. 56th Street* ..... 11 a.m.–4 p.m.  
13 4-H Teen Council Meeting ..... 3 p.m.  
13–17 State 4-H Horse Show, *Fonner Park, Grand Island*  
14 Family Community Education (FCE) Sizzling Summer Sampler ..... 6–9 p.m.  
18 4-H Demonstration Contest ..... 1 p.m.  
19 Composting Demonstration, *City Yard Waste Composting*  
*Demonstration Site at 50th & Colby, Lincoln* ..... 8:30 a.m.  
23 County Fair 4-H Style Revue Judging, *Lancaster Event Center* ..... 8:30 a.m.  
24 4-H Food Booth Training, *Lancaster Event Center* ..... 6–7 p.m.  
25 Pesticide Container Recycling Collection, *Farmers Cooperative, Bennet* ..... 9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
27 County Fair 4-H Horse Show Pre-Fair Briefing, *Event Center* ..... 2 p.m.  
28 County Fair Static Exhibit Check In, *Event Center* ..... 4–8 p.m.  
29 County Fair Static Exhibits Judging, *Event Center* ..... 8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
July 30–August 3 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR, *Lancaster Event Center*

AUGUST

- 2 County Fair 4-H Animals Released, *Lancaster Event Center* ..... 10 p.m.  
3 County Fair Static Exhibits Released, *Event Center* ..... Noon–2 p.m.  
5 4-H Horse Awards Night ..... 7 p.m.  
7 4-H Fair Review Meeting ..... 7 p.m.  
10 Dine Out for 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF),  
*Don & Millie's, 5200 S. 56th Street* ..... 11 a.m.–4 p.m.  
16 Composting Demonstration, *City Yard Waste Composting*  
*Demonstration Site at 50th & Colby, Lincoln* ..... 8:30 a.m.  
20 Nebraska State Fair Static Exhibits Entry Day, *State Fair Park*  
August 23–September 1 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR, *State Fair Park*

The NEBLINE



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NUFACTS Information Center: 441-7188  
Composting Hotline: 441-7139

All programs and events listed in this newsletter will be held (unless noted otherwise) at:  
**Lancaster Extension Education Center**  
444 Cherrycreek Rd. (event rooms posted), Lincoln  
Lobby Phone: 441-7170

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Make It Yourself With Wool Contest

This contest is to promote the beauty and versatility of wool fabric and yarn and to encourage personal creations and skills in sewing, knitting, crocheting, spinning and weaving of wool fabric and yarn.  
This year, they are promoting the category of “made for others” at the district and state levels. The ages are as follows:  
• Pre-teen, 12 and under  
• Junior, 13 to 16  
• Senior, 17 to 24  
• Adult 25 and over  
If you are a student in a college program of design, there

is a contest you may enter aside from this contest at the National level. If you are in need of any further information, please feel free to contact the Nebraska State Director, Alice Doane, 17705 Bluff Road, Waverly, NE 68462; phone (402) 786-3555 or the director for the district you are interested in.  
You may enter any district contest. Dates, locations and directors are as follows:  
District I — Oct. 18 in Scottsbluff. Doris Rush (308) 635-0156 and Rosalene Tollman. Entry deadline, Oct. 4.

District II — Oct. 11 in Lexington. Terri Uden (308) 324-3175. Entry deadline, Sept. 27.  
District III — Nov. 1 in Lincoln. Pam Schlickbernd (402) 372-3658 and Lara Grundman (402) 264-4825. Entry deadline, Oct. 25.  
Application forms are available at the Lancaster Extension Office, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507. For more information, call Lorene at 441-7180. (LB)

Dine Out for CWF at Don & Millie’s on Second Sundays

On the second Sunday of each month, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Don & Millie’s will host Dine Out for 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF). When people indicate they are eating for 4-H, Don & Millie’s will donate 20 percent of the profits of those meals. Don & Millie’s is located at 5200 S. 56th Street. You and your family can support CWF by dining out at Don & Millie’s during these times and telling them you are eating for 4-H. Mark your calendars with these dates: July 13, Aug 10 and Sep. 14. Thanks to Don & Millie’s and to those who “Dine Out for CWF”!

Final Three 4-H Camps

Open to all youth

There’s still time to register for the final three 4-H summer camps at the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center in Schramm Park near Gretna:  
**July 14–17 Outdoor Skills** Ages 11–14  
**July 18 Kids-N-Water** Ages 5–7  
**July 29–31 Dismal River Trip** Ages 15–19  
For camp descriptions, registration forms or more information, visit online at **4h.unl.edu** or call the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center at (402) 332-4496. Registrations accepted up until day camp begins.



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Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Story Idea(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:**  
University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A • Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507



# 2003 Clover College Hands-Full of Fun and Learning

4-H Clover College is a four-day series of “hands-on” workshops presented annually by UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County. It is open to all youth ages 5 and up. This year’s Clover College, June 24–27, featured 27 workshops and had more than 300 registrations. A special thanks to the instructors and assistants who helped make Clover College a success!



Older youth assist a Clover Kids Camp participant in making clay.



Jean Wheelock from the Pioneers Park Nature Center teaches youth about owls.



A youth counts down to the launch of her rocket which she triggers with a button.



Employees from TierOne Bank, Clocktower Branch teach youth how to balance a checkbook.



Camp counselors from the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center in Gretna lead youth in camp songs and activities.



Participants in Bird Seed Feeder use carpentry tools to construct three different bird seed feeders.

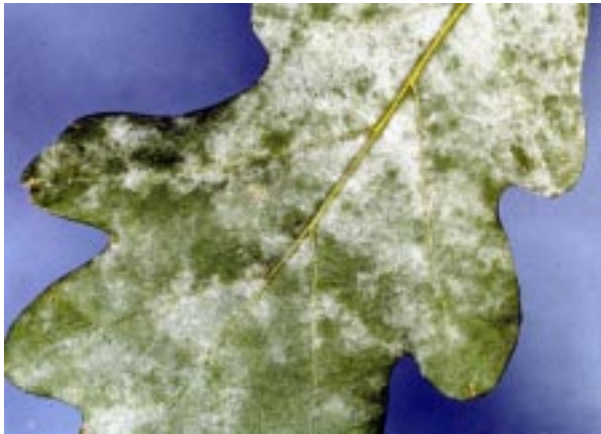


Gary Tharnish from Burton Tyrrell's Flowers demonstrates how to put the finishing touches on a floral arrangement.



Extension Educator Barb Ogg shows participants how to collect insects for their own starter insect collections.

See Inside for More Information: Powdery Mildew



Damage from powdery mildew on oak leaf. For information about powdery mildew on ornamentals, see page 2 of this issue.

## Opossum Caught Dead in the Act

Short Story and photos shared by Kate Brooke. Kate is a printmaker and mixed media artist who exhibits her work regionally and nationally. She owns and operates the Opossum Track Press in Lincoln, Nebraska.



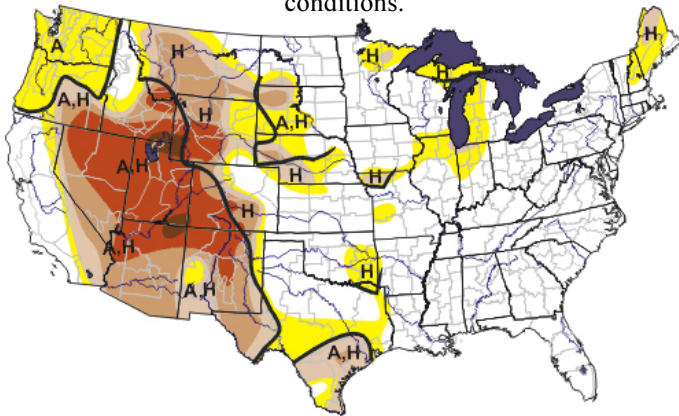
Last night Robert and I found a “dead” young opossum on our driveway, with my cat Cartwheel, who is too lazy to hunt anymore, strutting around triumphantly. Cartwheel almost always meets us on the driveway when we return home, and I suspect when he got there last night, he ran into the opossum. I bet the two creatures surprised and scared one another, and when the opossum dropped into defense mode, Cartwheel decided he was One Tough Cat. We quickly put Cartwheel inside and I got my camera. I didn’t see any evidence that the young opossum was harmed, and when I checked on it later, of course it had moved on. Turns out its mother was nearby. The young opossum’s rather grisly death posture was mightily impressive!

For more information about opossums, see page 3 of this issue.



## Latest U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of July 1, Lancaster County was not classified in drought conditions.



For the most recent map, visit [www.drought.unl.edu/dm](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska